



ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH
OF THE
COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN
FOR THE YEAR 1936.

HENRY WHITEHEAD, M.D., D.P.H. (VICT.), M.B., B.S. (LOND.),
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
CHIEF TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER,
SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER,
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF CORPORATION
HOSPITALS, &c.


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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1936.

Medical Officer of Health,
Superintendent School Medical Officer,
Administrative Tuberculosis Officer :

HENRY WHITEHEAD, M.D., D.P.H., (Vict.,) M.B., B.S. (Lond.)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health,
Clinical Tuberculosis Officer :

HENRY RICHMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer—Maternity and Child Welfare (part time) :
(Miss) ISOBEL M. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dentist—Maternity and Child Welfare and Tuberculosis (part time) :
C. F. L. PURSLOW, L.D.S., R.C.S., Eng.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :
FREDERICK MARTLEW (a) (b).

Sanitary Inspectors :
J. ASHTON (a) (b), V. JONES (a) (b), T. McKNIGHT (a) (b), J. ROUGHAN (a) (b),
W. HIGGINS (a) (b).

Factory, Workshops, and Shops Inspector : E. RICHARDSON (a).
Shops Inspector : R. C. WOODS.

Matron of Sanatoria : MISS L. ROTHWELL, S.R.N., R.F.N.

Lady Health Visitors :
B. CROMPTON (c)(d), M. L. GOLD (a)(c), M. E. WHEAT (c)(e)(f),
F. FOX (c)(e)(f), (until 31st Oct.), A. L. G. MARTIN (c)(e)(f),
C. W. CAMPBELL (c)(e)(f), (from 9th Nov.).

Tuberculosis Nurse : L. WEST (a).

Chief Clerk : A. N. BYERS.

Clerks :
P. STRAFFORD, J. C. DAVENPORT, F. L. THOMAS.

Tuberculosis Dispensary : A. FAIRHURST.

Maternity and Child Welfare Department : M. MILLER.

Steam Disinfector Attendant : J. RISLEY.

Disinfectors : J. GRIFFITHS, E. SMITH.

Motor Drivers : N. ABBOTT, R. MACKENZIE.

PART-TIME OFFICERS.

Clinical V.D. Officer : HENRY BARDSLEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Orthopædic Surgeon : HENRY POSTON, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., M.Ch.
C. P. BRETNALL M.B., Ch.B., Consultant Ante-Natal Clinic.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1936—Cont'd,

Employed as Consultant Obstetrician for Domiciliary Service,
and Consultant Ante-Natal Clinic :

A. LLOYD POTTER, M.D., M.C.O.G.

Employed as Consultants and for the Treatment of Puerperal Fever and
Pyrexia :

J. F. BERRY, M.B., Ch.B. &c. C. L. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B.

Masseuse : MISS L. HEALY.

Public Vaccinators and District Medical Officers :

E. D. PORTMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D. N. MACKINNON, M.B., Ch.B.

Veterinary Surgeon : WILLIAM WOODS, F.R.C.V.S.

Public Analyst : S. ERNEST MELLING, F.I.C.

Vaccination Officers : R. B. WHITE, S. TURNER, J. BATE.

- (a) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate
- (b) Meat Inspector's Certificate.
- (c) Certificate, Central Midwives' Board.
- (d) Health Visitor and School Nurse's Certificate
- (e) Hospital Trained.
- (f) New Health Visitor's Certificate

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

Municipal Buildings,

Library Street,

Wigan.

June, 1937.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Wigan.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of the Borough, and on the work of the Health Department for the year 1936.

The General Death Rate was 12·78—the third lowest ever recorded in the Borough.

The Infant Mortality was 82. This is still high compared with the figure for the country as a whole, but only on one occasion has it been less in Wigan, namely, 67 in 1934.

Maternal Mortality shows a marked decrease, being 2·62 against 4·6 in 1935.

There is again a reduction in the death rate from Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, namely, ·72 per 1,000 of the population, against ·78 for 1935.

The Birth Rate is higher than in 1935, being 17·23, against 16·86, and considerably higher than the average for the whole country.

During the year there were far more cases of Diphtheria in Wigan than the average for previous years. 205 cases were notified. For the last ten years the average number of notifications of this disease was only 36, which is a very low figure for the size of the town. Protective Innoculation was advised for children of pre-school and school age, and other preventive measures were recommended to be carried out in the schools. (See page 60.)

The proposed extensions to the Health Department have not yet been commenced, and the staff are working under great difficulties. Moreover, the various clinics are overcrowded. This matter is becoming more urgent as time goes on, and there should be no further delay.

In September, 1933, a five years' programme of Slum Clearance and Re-Housing was approved by the Borough Council and progress continues to be very satisfactory. (See page 35.) On December 31st, 1936, 754 dwellings unfit for human habitation had been reported to the Insanitary Houses and Conversions Committee. To re-house the occupiers of the above dwellings 344 houses were erected and occupied on the Worsley Hall Site. Approved schemes to erect 362 houses on the Thicknesse Estate are in progress; 168 of these houses were completed and occupied. During the same period, 170 houses were erected on the Worsley Hall Site to relieve overcrowding. The erection of 212 houses on the Thicknesse Estate was also in progress.

Preparations were made to deal with Overcrowding under the Housing Act, 1935. A survey of all the working-class houses in the Borough was made and a report prepared. (See page 38.)

My thanks are due to all the members of the staff of the Health Department, including the Hospitals, for their constant loyalty and excellent work during the year. Legislation in recent years has resulted in a great increase of work for the Department.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman of the Health Committee (Alderman T. Ramsden), the Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and Hospitals Committee (Councillor Mrs. Ashurst), and also the Chairman of the Insanitary Houses Committee (Councillor Shaw) for their continued confidence and support.

I thank, too, the members of the Health Committee and of the various Committees under whom I serve for their courtesy and consideration.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY WHITEHEAD.

1.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The County Borough of Wigan covers an area of 5,082 acres, and had a population at the 1931 census of 85,357. The Registrar General's estimated population on 1st July, 1936, of 83,820, on which figure statistics in this report are based. A considerable portion of the Borough is used for agricultural purposes. These areas are sparsely populated. The average number of persons per acre varies in the fourteen wards within the Borough from 5 to 105, the average being 16·8. The Borough of Wigan forms a considerable part of the valley of the River Douglas. The river is the boundary on the North side, continues its course to the centre and finally becomes the boundary on the West side. The levels on which the river enters and leaves are respectively 150 and 69 feet. Water is taken from the river for feeding the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, which traverses the town. The maximum elevations are at the extreme North 254 feet and at the South-West 260 feet. The lowest level is at the North-western boundary, which is 69 feet.

Geologically, the whole of the Borough rests on the lower coal measures, or Gannister beds, which are here very superficial, and, in fact, outcrop in several parts of the district. The sub-soil is mainly clay which in places has a depth of nearly twenty feet; but there is an important layer of sand covering a large part of the centre of the town, and extending northwards in the direction of Standish. In other parts sand is found in "pockets." Much of the western portion, beyond the Park, lies on a fairly extensive gravel bed.

The population is essentially an industrial one, the principal industries being coal, iron, cotton, and the manufacture of clothing.

Number of inhabited houses (1931 Census)	18,573
Number of inhabited houses end of 1936, according to rate books	20,234
Number of families or separate occupiers (1931 Census) ..	20,190
Rateable value (1936)	£403,763
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1586,

It is pleasing to state that during recent years there has been a remarkable decrease in drunkenness occurring within the Borough.

Alcoholism, during the six years ending 31st December, 1914, accounted for no less than 23 deaths. During the year 1936 there was one death certified as being caused by alcoholism. The yearly average number of prosecutions taken against persons charged with drunkenness during the six years ending 31st December, 1914, was 337, whilst in the six years ending 31st December, 1936, the yearly average number of prosecutions for the same charge had declined to 67.

The local authority possess only one Public Bathing establishment, which is situated in Millgate, Wigan. The accommodation is insufficient for a town with a population of approximately 84,000, especially when it is realised that the great majority of dwelling houses are not provided with a private bath, and when it is remembered that a very large number of the population is engaged in the coal mining industry.

The following list shows the number of Bathers during the past five years :—

							<i>Total No. of Bathers.</i>
1932	..	..	..	..	..	..	167,995
1933	..	..	..	..	..	..	168,303
1934	..	..	..	..	..	..	167,781
1935	..	..	..	..	..	..	142,024
1936	..	..	..	..	..	..	125,264

The Baths Superintendent, Mr. J. H. Cockrell, has kindly supplied me with the following figures and report :—

SUMMARY OF BATHERS AND PARTICULARS OF THE BOROUGH
BATHING ESTABLISHMENT FOR YEAR ENDED
MARCH 31st, 1937.

Number of Plunge Baths	..	..	..	..	2
„ Private Baths	..	..	..	..	18

BATHERS.

Male Plunge Baths	..	..	..	..	65,764*
„ Private Baths	..	..	..	..	5,573
Female Plunge Baths	..	..	..	..	26,779†
„ Private Baths	..	..	..	..	1,196
Mixed Bathing: Adults	..	..	..	..	5,079
„ Juniors	..	..	..	..	1,319
Contracts, Free Passes, Season Tickets, etc.					19,554
Total	..	..	..	..	125,264

* This number includes 21,138 boys who are charged 1d., and are admitted after 4 p.m. on each week day except Thursday and Saturday.

† This number includes 7,982 girls who are charged 1d., and are admitted after 4 p.m., on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays, during the summer season.

The above figures show a decrease as compared with the previous year, due to the exceptionally bad weather experienced during the past year.

During the past year two electrically driven and steam heated ventilating fans have been installed in the Ladies' plunge, and have proved to be highly satisfactory in eliminating from the Bath cloud vapour which is very prevalent during the cold weather.

The combined Heaters and Ventilating Fans are situated at the shallow and Deep ends of the Pool, and are suspended from the end walls 14 feet from floor level.

Steam is supplied at a pressure of 50 lbs., and from a service main fed into the top of the heaters, and passes through batteries of bronzed gills. The steam is trapped and returned to the boilers as feed water.

The air drawn in is warmed and distributed in any desired direction, by means of control louvres.

The Fan, which is driven by a 3-phase motor, is designed to give three air changes per hour, and the temperature of the Baths building is maintained at 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

At the April, 1937, Meeting the Baths Committee empowered the Borough Engineer to draw up a scheme for the erection of a new Branch Bath in the Pemberton District. £1,000 has been included in Estimates, 1937-38, and it is expected that by the end of the present year the foundation of the Bath will be laid. The approximate estimated cost of the Bath is £16,000.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

The Clerk to the Public Assistance Committee has kindly supplied me with the following information:—

<i>Borough of Wigan.</i>					
<i>Year ending.</i>	<i>Average No. of families receiving relief.</i>				<i>Amount paid in relief.</i>
					£
31st March, 1933	1379	..	40,287
31st March, 1934	1501	..	43,497
31st March, 1935	1688	..	51,621
31st March, 1936	1851	..	58,728
31st March, 1937	1848	..	58,240

The Institutions provided are the Frog Lane Institution, for able bodied persons, also a number of old and infirm persons and children under three, which has 268 beds; the Billinge Hospital, Billinge, 369 beds. These institutions receive inmates from the whole of the old Wigan Union, which includes part of the County Area.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

Mr. A. Clarke, the Clerk to the National Health Insurance Committee for the Borough, has kindly supplied me with the following information, with respect to treatment under the National Health Insurance Scheme.

	1932. 1st Jan.	1933. 1st Jan.	1934. 1st Jan.	1935. 1st Jan.	1936. 1st Jan.
Number of insured persons in Wigan, according to counts of Insurance Committee's Register..	38448	38389	37150	35400	36294
Number of prescriptions issued by doctors ..	158290	176589	157059	169660	178810
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total cost of prescriptions issued	5002 2 11	5576 11 0	4932 15 11	5388 7 8	5728 8 7
Average cost per prescription issued.. ..	7·58d.	7·58d.	7·54d.	7·62d.	7·69d..

2.—VITAL STATISTICS, 1935—1936.

	1935.	1936.
Population estimated July 1st	84,500	83,820
<i>Births</i> —Males 752 } Total	1,425	1,445
Females 693 }		
Annual rate of births per 1,000 on Registrar General's estimated population.	16·86	17·23
Ditto for England and Wales.. .. .	14·7	14·8
Ditto, 122 County Boroughs and great towns	14·8	14·9
Illegitimate births number 37 or ·44 per 1,000 of population, a percentage of	2·31	2·56
<i>Deaths</i> —Males 565 } Total	1,167	1,072
Females 507 }		
Corrected Death-rate, on Registrar General's estimated population	13·81	12·78
Ditto in England and Wales	11·7	12·1
Death-rate in 122 County Boroughs and great towns	11·8	12·3
Excess of registered births over deaths	258	373
Maternal Death-rate	4·60	2·62
Total deaths from seven principal Zymotic Diseases	66	36
Annual rate of mortality from seven principal Zymotic Diseases	·78	·42
Total deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years	7	4
Death-rate (per 1,000 births) from Diarrhoea and Enteritis	4·9	2·7
Infantile-rate (deaths per 1,000 births)	97	82
Ditto for England and Wales	57	59
Ditto for 122 County Boroughs and great towns	62	63
Deaths of infants under 1 day old (number)	17	26
Ditto 1 year (legitimate)	134	117
Ditto 1 year (illegitimate)	5	2

Births.—The number of births registered during 1936 is 1445, (males 752, females 693), the rate per 1,000 of the population being 17·23. The birth-rate compared with 1935 is ·37 higher. The illegitimate births number 37 or 2·56 per cent.

Stillbirths.—The following shows the number of stillbirths registered during the year 1936 :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	42	37	79
Illegitimate.. .. .	1	1	2
Total	43	38	81

The Mortality-rate.—The deaths for 1936 number 1,072 (males 565, females 507), being an excess of 58 males over females. The recorded rate per 1,000 of the population per annum is 12·78; in 1935 13·81. The decrease in the number of deaths as compared with 1935 was 95—and the rate 1·03 per 1,000.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.	
<i>Births</i> —(Legitimate) ..	1408	734	674	{ Birth rate per 1,000 population, 17·23
(Illegitimate) ..	37	18	19	
	<hr/> 1,445	<hr/> 752	<hr/> 693	
	Total.	M.	F.	
<i>Deaths</i> —	1,072	565	507	{ Death-rate per 1,000 population, 12·78.
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth .. ..	..	..	..	{ from sepsis .. 1 from other causes.. 3
Mortality of women in, or associated with child-birth, per 1,000 children born alive :—				
Puerperal Sepsis .. ..	..	..	..	·65
Other Puerperal causes .. ..	..	..	..	1·96
				<hr/>
Total Puerperal mortality .. ..	..	..	..	2·62
Non Puerperal causes .. ..	..	..	..	—
Total Maternal Mortality .. ..	..	..	..	2·62
Infant-Mortality rate under one year of age per 1,000 births :—				
Legitimate 83 Illegitimate 54 Total 82				
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .. ..	..	..	..	1
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) .. ..	..	..	..	18
„ „ Diarrhoea (under two years of age) .. ..	..	..	..	4

INQUESTS AND UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

The number of Inquests held in Wigan during 1936 was 62, against 79 for 1935, and 83 for 1934, and the following verdicts have been recorded :—

1. Natural Causes .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
2. Accidents—burnt .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
„ scalded .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
„ colliery .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
„ drowned .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ falls .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
„ railway .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ falls downstairs .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
„ knocked down .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
„ others .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
3. Suicides—hanging .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ drowned .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ gas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ poison .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ others .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
4. Others .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
5. Murder .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
										<hr/> 62

There were no uncertified deaths in 1936, against 1 in 1935, and 4 in 1934.

TABLE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1936 IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF

Causes of Deaths.	Deaths at the sub-joined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.												
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 3.	3 and under 4.	4 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and over
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	18	8	9	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	14	..	..	1	..	1	8	3	..	1	..	..	..
Influenza	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	6	5
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	48	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	7	20	5	11	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases	13	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	2	4	2	..	2
Syphilis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease..	125	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	62	54
Diabetes	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	8
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ..	66	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	21	44
Heart Disease	192	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	4	6	11	71	98
Aneurysm	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	2
Other Circulatory Diseases..	34	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	24
Bronchitis	94	7	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	9	30	42
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	89	18	6	9	7	3	8	..	2	3	6	19	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	19	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	10	6
Peptic Ulcer	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1
Diarrhæa &c.	4	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Appendicitis.. ..	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Other Digestive Diseases ..	30	4	..	..	..	..	3	1	3	..	..	9	10
Acute and Chronic Nephritis.	23	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	3	2	4	11
Puerperal Sepsis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Other Puerperal causes ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc... ..	68	66	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Senility	88	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88
Suicide	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	2
Other Violence	32	..	..	1	2	3	2	1	2	3	4	6	8
Other defined causes ..	51	10	..	..	..	..	2	2	4	3	7	16	7
Causes ill-defined or unknown	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1
TOTALS	1072	119	21	13	10	9	27	11	24	55	67	288	428

WIGAN, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES AND LOCALITIES.

Deaths at all Ages.

St. George Ward. 1	Lindsay Ward. 2	St. Catharine Ward. 3	St. Patrick Ward. 4	St. Thomas Ward. 5	Poolstock Ward. 6	Victoria Ward. 7	St. Andrew Ward. 8	Swinley Ward. 9	All Saints Ward. 10	West Pem- berton Ward. 11	North Pem- berton Ward. 12	Central Pem- berton Ward. 13	South Pem- berton Ward. 14	Total Deaths.
..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
..
1	..	2	4	3	2	..	2	..	1	..	..	2	1	18
..	..	1	3	1	..	2	3	2	1	..	1	..	..	14
1	..	..	3	1	..	..	6	..	1	1	3	..	1	17
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	2
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
4	2	10	6	2	6	1	9	1	2	1	2	1	1	48
..	..	..	6	..	..	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	13
..
..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
4	8	9	20	4	6	6	17	18	5	7	6	8	7	125
..	1	..	2	..	..	..	4	2	..	1	..	1	2	13
..	4	3	4	2	7	7	14	6	1	2	4	6	6	66
8	9	15	16	14	11	7	38	13	2	11	15	20	13	192
..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	5
1	2	4	2	..	4	2	4	9	2	..	2	2	..	34
9	5	11	10	6	4	4	8	9	5	3	7	5	8	94
6	9	11	7	9	3	9	8	5	1	2	8	8	3	89
1	..	..	3	1	2	..	5	1	..	1	1	3	1	19
..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	4
..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	4
..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
2	2	1	4	1	2	1	7	2	..	2	4	1	1	30
2	3	2	2	..	2	2	2	1	1	..	2	2	2	23
..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
4	10	2	5	2	6	6	9	4	1	2	5	8	4	68
3	5	10	7	3	4	1	24	8	4	4	6	7	2	88
..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	5
3	1	2	4	2	1	..	4	1	1	3	3	5	2	32
3	2	3	7	3	2	5	8	7	..	..	5	5	1	51
..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
53	65	88	119	54	64	58	185	93	30	40	78	87	58	1072

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1936 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Pop'tion estimated to middle of each year. 2	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un- corrected number. 3	Nett.		Number. 6	Rate. 7	of Non- residents registered in the District. 8	of Resi- dents not registered in the District. 9	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
			Number. 4	Rate. 5					Number. 10	Rate per 1,000 nett births. 11		
1												
1932..	85,520	1,519	1,522	17·80	1,073	12·54	138	206	141	92	1,141	13·34
1933..	85,150	1,411	1,415	16·61	1,136	13·46	142	227	155	109	1,221	14·34
1934..	84,750	1,467	1,477	17·42	1,002	11·69	143	192	99	67	1051	12·40
1935..	84,500	1,438	1,425	16·86	1,107	13·10	141	201	139	97	1,167	13·81
1936..	83,820	1,442	1,445	17·23	1,002	11·95	149	219	119	82	1,072	12·78

The death-rate for each quarter is as follows :—

1936	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
All Causes ..	16·37	12·72	9·24	12·10
Zymotics ..	·65	·56	·23	·23

The Zymotic-rate, ·42 is ·36 lower than in 1935.

DEATH RATES, 1936.

Disease.	No. of Deaths.	Rate.
Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
Measles	1	·01
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	18	·21
Diphtheria	14	·16
Influenza	17	·20
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	·02
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	·01
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	48	·57
Other Tuberculous Diseases	13	·15
Syphilis	—	—
General paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	2	·02
Cancer, Malignant Disease	125	1·49
Diabetes	13	·15
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	66	·78
Heart Disease	192	2·29
Aneurysm	5	·06
Other Circulatory Diseases	34	·45
Bronchitis	94	1·12
Pneumonia (all forms)	89	1·06
Other Respiratory Diseases	19	·22
Peptic Ulcer	4	·05
Diarrhæa, etc. (under 2 years)	4	·05
Appendicitis	3	·04
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	·01
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	3	·04
Other Digestive Diseases	30	·36
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	23	·27
Puerperal Sepsis	1	·01
Other Puerperal causes	3	·04
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc... .. .	68	·81
Senility	88	1·05
Suicide	5	·06
Other Violence	32	·38
Other defined causes	51	·60
Causes ill-defined or unknown	3	·04
Total	1,072	12·78

DEATH-RATES FOR WIGAN DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS.

1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
14·31	12·62	15·01	13·24	14·02	13·34	14·34	12·40	13·81	12·78

AVERAGE FOR TEN YEARS, 13·58.

NUMBER OF DEATHS IN DIFFERENT WARDS IN WIGAN, 1936.

Ward.	Ward No.	Census Population.	Death Totals.	Death Rate.
St. George	1	4,281	53	12·37
Lindsay	2	5,222	65	12·46
St. Catharine	3	6,929	88	12·70
St. Patrick	4	8,571	119	13·88
St. Thomas	5	4,183	54	12·90
Poolstock	6	4,775	64	13·40
Victoria	7	4,745	58	12·22
St. Andrew	8	14,085	185	13·13
Swinley	9	7,880	93	11·80
All Saints	10	2,750	30	11·27
West Pemberton	11	3,740	40	10·69
North Pemberton	12	6,605	78	11·80
Central Pemberton	13	6,129	87	14·19
South Pemberton	14	5,462	58	10·61
Totals .. ..	..	85,357	1,072	*12·78

*Death Rate is based on the Registrar General's estimated Population of 83,820

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The Mortality from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, namely: Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, and Diarrhoea, gives us a rate of ·42 per 1,000 of the population, against ·78 in 1935.

The deaths numbered 36 as against 66 in 1935.

The Zymotic-rate, .42, is made up as follows:—

DEATH-RATES PER 1,000 :—

	1935	1936
Small-pox	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	.05	Nil.
Measles .. .. .	.54	.01
Whooping Cough .. .. .	.06	.21
Diarrhoea .. .. .	.09	.05
Enteric Fever .. .. .	.01	—
Diphtheria .. .. .	.02	.16

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES FOR THE
PAST FIVE YEARS.

	Deaths.	Death Rate.
1932	33	.38
1933	32	.38
1934	10	.11
1935	66	.78
1936	36	.42

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS SINCE YEAR 1876.

Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death. Rate.	Infant Mortality.
1876	48.9	28.5	4.92	186
1886	38.7	22.1	3.1	174
1896	35.9	23.09	4.09	186
1906	32.6	17.61	2.61	160
1916	23.28	15.42	1.04	113
1926	20.03	13.13	.30	103
1936	17.23	12.78	.42	82

**REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES
OF DEATH, 1936.**

CAUSES.	Sex.	All Ages.	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
ALL CAUSES.	M F.	567 512	64 55	9 12	20 13	19 19	27 21	15 17	33 33	61 38	101 89	151 117	67 98
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..	M. F.	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
2. Measles	M. F.	1 -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
3. Scarlet Fever	M. F.	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
4. Whooping Cough ..	M. F.	9 9	5 3	4 5	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
5. Diphtheria	M. F.	6 9	- -	- -	- 3	6 5	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
6. Influenza	M. F.	12 7	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- 2	3 -	3 1	2 1	2 3	1 -
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	M. F.	1 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- 1	- -
8 Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	M. F.	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	M. F.	25 23	- -	- -	- -	- 1	7 10	3 7	3 2	5 1	5 1	2 -	- 1
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	M. F.	11 4	- -	2 -	1 -	1 1	2 1	2 1	1 1	- -	- -	2 -	- -
11. Syphilis	M. F.	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
12. General Paralysis of the Insane. Tabes Dorsalis	M. F.	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	1 -	- -
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	M. F.	60 69	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	5 6	7 18	20 19	24 20	4 6
14. Diabetes	M. F.	3 11	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- 1	- 4	3 3	- 2
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, Etc.	M. F.	31 35	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- 1	3 1	11 5	15 22	2 6
16. Heart Disease ..	M. F.	98 91	- -	- -	- -	1 -	6 1	3 1	4 5	7 6	28 20	32 29	17 29
17. Aneurysm	M. F.	3 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 2	1 -	- -	2 -	- -
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	M. F.	18 10	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 -	1 5	9 3	5 2

**REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES
OF DEATH, 1936—Continued.**

[illegible]

3.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Professional Nursing in the Home.—The Wigan Branch of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses commenced activities in February, 1929. To commence with, the Staff consisted of two Nurses. The Staff now consists of a Superintendent and five Nurses.

Midwives.—No midwives are employed by the Corporation. Midwives' fees are paid by the Corporation in necessitous cases only, and where Maternity Benefit under the National Health Insurance Acts is not payable. Strict enquiries are made into each case.

There were 39 midwives practising in the district on 1st January, 1936.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—The following Clinics and Treatment Centres are provided by the Corporation:—

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Maternity and Child Welfare
Centre, Municipal Build-
ings, Library Street,
Wigan. | <p>Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 2 to 4-30. Special Ante-Natal Clinic held second Friday in the month at 2 o'clock. Schools for mothers Wednesday afternoons. The Dentist attends on Tuesday afternoons for examination and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and infants.</p> <p>Ante-Natal Clinic, 2 to 4-30 p.m. each Tuesday and Special Clinic second Friday in each month at 2 o'clock.</p> |
| 2. Maternity and Child Welfare
Centre, Billinge Road,
Pemberton. | <p>Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Monday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers on Thursday afternoons.</p> <p>Ante-Natal Clinic, alternate Friday afternoons at 2 o'clock.</p> |
| 3. Maternity and Child Welfare
Centre, Jackson's Square
Scholes. | <p>Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Friday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers held on Tuesday afternoons.</p> |

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wesleyan Chapel, Worsley Mesnes. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers also held on Monday afternoons. |
| 5. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, St. Andrew's Mission Room, Woodhouse Lane. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers held on Wednesday afternoons. |
| 6. School Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan (See No. 1). | For minor ailments. A dentist is in attendance three mornings each week for inspection and treatment of school children. |
| 7. Orthopædic Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan. | For treatment of crippling defects. Open each Monday morning. Surgeon attends twice monthly. Cases from Ince and Hindley also attend. |
| 8. Tuberculosis Clinic, 14, Rodney Street, Wigan. | Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings and Friday evenings, as required. A dentist is in attendance on Wednesday mornings for the inspection and treatment of tuberculous persons.

Orthopædic clinic held each Wednesday afternoon when there is a masseuse in attendance. Surgeon attends on Saturday morning once every two months. |
| 9. Radium treatment of Cancer. The Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre. | A Special Clinic is held at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary for inspection and advice only. Treatment is carried out at Manchester. |
| 10. Artificial Light Clinic, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary | For treatment of suitable cases, by arrangement. |
| 11. Venereal Disease Clinic, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan. | Open Tuesdays and Fridays, 4 to 7 for males only, and from 4 to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays for females and children. "Irrigations" by arrangement. "Inpatient" treatment is also available. |

Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by the Local Authority.—The following hospitals are provided by the Local Authority:—

Pemberton Hospital.

For treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, 28 beds, four of which are reserved for the Lancashire County Council.

Whalley Sanatorium.

For Infectious Diseases (other than smallpox and venereal diseases), 76 beds.

Billinge Infirmary, Billinge.

For medical, maternity and mental cases. 369 beds. There is no resident medical officer. Under the control of the Public Assistance Committee.

Frog Lane Institution.

309 beds are available chiefly for able bodied people. There is also a ward for infectious diseases. There is no resident medical officer. Under the control of the Public Assistance Committee.

The following hospitals and institutions are subsidised by the Local Authority, either by way of (a) an annual grant, or (b) payment for beds reserved for cases sent by this Authority.

Sankey Small Pox Hospital
Near Warrington.

For treatment of smallpox. Payment of £230 per annum.

Leasowe Hospital.

Four beds reserved for treatment of surgical tuberculosis. 41/- per bed, per week.

Other Hospitals Available for the District:—

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary,
Wigan.

General Hospital. 180 beds. Replete with massage, electrical, orthopaedic, artificial sunlight, and X-ray Departments and pathological laboratory. A certain number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis are treated there, for which payment is made by this Authority. Cases requiring treatment under the Corporation's scheme for dealing with Puerperal Fever are also treated there.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers:—

St. Margaret's Home, Goose Green,
Wigan.

Supported by charities and donations. Grant made by the Local Authority. Accommodation for babies and girls.

Ambulance Facilities :—

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a). For Infectious Cases. | One motor ambulance is owned by the Health Department. In addition the motor vehicle used for disinfection purposes can also be used as an ambulance. |
| (b). For Non-infectious Cases and Accidents. | Two motor ambulances used for accidents, etc., and one motor vehicle used either as an ambulance or prison van, owned by Local Authority. One ambulance owned by the Public Assistance Department, and one saloon car used for transporting mental cases. |

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

On 1st January, 1936, there were two nursing homes and two maternity homes registered.

No action with respect to registration of maternity and nursing homes has been necessary during the year.

COST OF HEALTH SERVICES.

The gross cost of services controlled by the Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees for the year ending 31st March, 1936, was £28,736. This is an increase compared with £28,723 for the previous year.

HOSPITAL ACCOM-

<i>Hospital.</i>	<i>Situation.</i>	<i>Management.</i>	<i>Type of Case.</i>
Billinge Infirmary.	Billinge.	Public Assist- ance Com- mittee, County Borough of Wigan.	Mental. Medical Tuberculosis Maternity
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.	Wigan Lane, Wigan.	Infirmary Board.	Surgical Medical Venereal Diseases Miscellaneous Eye Cases Side Wards Casualty.
Whelley Hospital.	Bradshaw Street, Wigan.	Hospitals Sub- mittee, County Borough of Wigan.	Infectious Diseases.
Pemberton Hospital. *	Billinge Road, Pemberton, Wigan.	Hospitals Sub- Committee, County Borough of Wigan.	Tuberculosis.
Institutions out- side Wigan.	Various.		Tuberculosis.
Biddulph Hospital.	Biddulph.	Lancashire County Council.	Orthopædic

* 4 beds (2 for male and 2 for female cases) reserved

MODATION PROVIDED.

Allocation of Beds.				Occupied during 1936.				Staff.
M.	F.	C.	Total.	M.	F.	C.	Total.	
54	55	—	109	48	51	—	99	1 Medical Officer, Part-time ; Matron. Assistant Matron and Home Sister. 6 Sisters. 27 Assistant Nurses. 8 Male Nurses.
104	121	12	237	94	96	24	214	
11	5	—	16	5	1	—	6	
—	7	—	7	—	4	—	4	
			369				323	
69	37	—	106	—	—	—	—	
16	16	3	35	—	—	—	—	
3 M.	or F.	1	4	—	—	—	—	
—	—	26	26	—	—	—	—	
—	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	
—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	
—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	
			180					
—	—	—	76	—	—	—	39	Medical Officer of Health is Medical Superintendent. Matron. 3 Sisters. 9 Probationer Nurses.
Ministry's standard			44					
13	15	—	28	13	15	—	28	The Chief Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Superintendent. The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Officer. Matron of Infectious Diseases Hospital also Matron of Pem- berton Hospital. Sister-in-charge. 2 Probationer Nurses. 2 Night Nurses.
—	—	—	35	15	12	8	35	
—	—	7	7	—	—	6	6	

for patients from the Lancashire County Council Area.

4.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Borough is supplied with water for domestic and trade purposes from the Arley, Worthington and Pemberton Reservoirs, which have a total capacity of 278,000,000 gallons. In addition, approximately 70,000,000 gallons of water is pumped each year from Nicholson's Pit, Winstanley, and a further supply is obtained from the Bispham Shaft, Billinge. The Corporation also own reservoirs at Adlington, Pemberton, and Whitley, which are used only for compensation and trade purposes. The gathering grounds from which the greater part of the water is obtained is agricultural land. A complete survey of these gathering grounds was made by the Chief Sanitary Inspector during the year 1922, and later the Medical Officer of Health visited all places where pollutions were discovered, and reported on these to the Water Committee. The sources of the most serious pollutions have in the main been dealt with. Privy middens in rural districts have been converted to pail closets; many cesspools have been constructed, and are emptied at the expense of the Wigan Corporation. Drains which discharged into the tributaries of the main stream have been diverted into cesspools or septic tanks, and fences have been erected to protect the water from casual personal pollution. The gathering grounds from which the water is obtained are not owned by the Borough of Wigan, and from time to time difficulties will certainly arise with respect to keeping the water reasonably pure. In consequence, the Medical Officer of Health recommended that chlorination plants should be erected at each waterworks, and to-day three chlorination plants are in operation; one each at Worthington, Edgewood and Bispham. Samples of water are frequently taken for bacteriological and chemical examinations from the various supplies, and from service taps in different parts of the town, and since these chlorination plants have been put in operation every sample examined has proved to be of satisfactory quality. One part of chlorine per $2\frac{1}{2}$ million is added to the water.

Apart from the local water supplies outlined above the Corporation obtain daily a further supply of 500,000 gallons per day from the Thirlmere Aqueduct of the Manchester Corporation, which quantity can be increased under agreement with the Manchester Corporation by a temporary supply of 350,000 gallons per day, if required.

The local supplies of water are obtained from the two extreme boundaries of the area, and considerable trouble has been experienced in the past due to lack of capacity in the trunk main connecting the two supplies. Improvements have, however, been carried out, and in 1934 a new trunk main was laid across the Douglas Valley from Pottery Road to Billinge Road, with the result that a large portion of the Borough can now obtain water from two distinct sources of supply, which is of great advantage from many points of view. Further improvements effected include the duplication of the Pumping Machinery at the Nicholson's Pit, and the installation of Mechanical Pressure Filters at the Edgewood Filter Works.

There are approximately 20,000 dwellings within the Borough and with one or two exceptions, each one has its own supply of town's water. The total quantity of water supplied for domestic purposes is approximately 1,557,000 gallons per day, and with the exception of the drought years of 1929-1930, and 1933-1934 when restrictions in certain parts of the Borough had to be put into operation, no difficulty has been experienced in affording a constant supply. Furthermore, the improvements recently carried out in the water distribution system have removed some of the difficulties which entailed the restriction of the supply during the drought years, and it is expected that in the event of a drought in the future these improvements will obviate the necessity of further restriction.

A few dwellings situate near the boundary of the Borough on the south side are supplied with water obtained from Billinge U.D.C.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Douglas and the streams running into it are the natural means of draining the Borough.

The River is badly polluted before entering the Borough and a certain amount of pollution occurs within. The Goose Green Sewerage Scheme has now been completed and the pollution which was occurring from that part of the Borough will, as a result of this scheme, cease.

The River Douglas is under the control of the Douglas Catchment Board who are carrying out a considerable amount of work in the dredging and straightening of the river, the result of which will be to give a better self-cleansing velocity to the river.

This authority also cleans the river, removes sludge, etc., from the bed as is required.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE, SCAVENGING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Practically the whole of the Borough is sewered and drained.

The sewage is conducted from the town by two main outfall sewers 27 inches and 36 inches diameter, to the Sewage Disposal Works at Hoscar, which are seven miles distant. Before leaving the town the sewage passes through two detritus tanks and also through coarse and fine screens, and at this point the storm water is diverted from the outfall sewers and is conveyed to the storm water treatment works at Pemberton.

The treatment works at Hoscar consist of Preliminary and Secondary Settling Tanks with chemical precipitation and a battery of circular revolving percolating filters, the effluent from the filters before it is discharged finally to the River Douglas passing through Humus Tanks,

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer, Mr. James Dove, A.M.Inst.C.E., for the following figures :—

During the year 1936 the following amounts of sewage have been treated at the Hoscar Moss and Pemberton Sewage Works :—

Pemberton Storm Water Works	351.02 million gallons.
Hoscar Bacteria Beds	1185.53 „
Hoscar Drainage Areas	149.06 „
Total Sewage Treated	1685.61 „
Total Solids, Detritus Tanks and Screen Chambers, Pemberton	4,011 tons.
Total Dried Sludge Recovered	1,936 „
Daily Average Dried Sludge Recovered ..	5.3 „
Weight of Dry Sludge per Million Gallons of Sewage	1.2 „
Rainfall for year	32.97 inches.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Mr. Smith, the Cleansing Superintendent, has supplied the following particulars :—

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.—The collection of Dry House Refuse and Trade Refuse is carried out by both Horse and Mechanical Transport, working as separate units, and by the Pagefield Container System, and the percentage of refuse collected by each system is as follows :—

Horse	45 per cent.
Pagefield Container	30 „
Mechanical Vehicles	25 „

89 per cent. of the refuse collected is disposed of by tipping.

NIGHTSOIL AND PAIL REFUSE.—This refuse (1485 tons) is disposed of direct to farmers as manure. All pails are washed and disinfected after each collection.

TRADE REFUSE.—No fixed charges are made for the removal of this refuse, the shops and business premises in the town centre have a daily collection.

GULLEY CLEANSING.—During the year 25,660 gullies were emptied.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.—The following conveniences and urinals are maintained and cleansed by the department :—

- 5 Public Conveniences for Ladies and Gents., with attendants.
- 29 Public Urinals.

All urinals are cleansed and inspected twice per day, including Sundays.

GENERAL.—All vehicles engaged on Refuse Collection and Street Cleansing are now equipped with pneumatic tyres.

The quantity of refuse dealt with by destructors during the year 1936 was 3,092 tons, and the quantity of refuse tipped was 25,571 tons. The Corporation have certain powers which require the owners or occupiers of property to provide, under certain conditions, receptacles of an approved pattern for refuse and already 20,597 ashbins have been provided.

166,920,000 square yards of streets have been swept during the year,

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

A general scheme for the conversion of pail closets and privy middens has been in progress in the Borough since March, 1923, with a view to placing all closet accommodation on the water carriage system.

On March 31st, 1923, the number of water closets in the Borough was 8,234, waste water closets 924, pail closets 7,081, privy *middens 1,563. On December 31st, 1936, the estimated number of water closets in the Borough was 23,915, waste water closets 265, pail closets 209, privy middens, 78. The actual number of pail and privy closets which were converted to the water carriage system during the period April 1st, 1923, to December 31st, 1936, was 9,141, and during the same period 179 pail and privy closets were abolished, the total number dealt with being 10,320. 1,164 additional water closets were provided for premises at which the closet accommodation was deemed to be insufficient.

The majority of the pail closets and privy middens are at unfit houses or premises which are not connected to sewers or in districts where the sewers have been seriously affected by mining subsidence.

The Local Authority commenced a scheme for the conversion of the waste water closets to water closets with proper flushing apparatus. This was inaugurated by the Local Authority on April 1st, 1926, and since that date 671 closets have been converted. 99 of these were converted during the year 1936

*NOTE.—The number of privy closets connected to one privy midden varies from one to six, the average being approximately two.

CONVERSION OF PAIL CLOSETS AND PRIVY MIDDENS.

The scheme for the conversion of pail closets and privy middens is now almost completed. The majority of the closets which have not been converted are in districts in which sewers are not available, or where the sewers are unsuitable on account of being affected by mining subsidence. A number also exist at premises which are deemed to be insanitary or are within an insanitary area.

During the year 1936, 1,016 visits have been made by Inspectors; 62 privy closets have been converted and one abolished. In addition, 8 additional water closets have been provided. The estimated total number of water closets erected in connection with the scheme since January 1st, 1923, is 10,303.

Year.	Notices Served for Conversion of		Total.	Conversions carried out.		Abolished.		Notices Served under Section 36, Public Health Act.	
	Pail Closets.	Privy Closets.		Pail Closets.	Privy Closets.	Pail Closets.	Privy Closets.	Closets to be provided.	No. of Closets provided.
1924	2689	649	3338	1908	1138	59	21	230	152
1925	2707	640	3347	2640	573	44	2	675	473
1926	228	99	327	1001	320	26	5	53	293
1927	5	15	20	203	29	12	-	9	90
1928	11	12	23	63	40	2	3	19	26
1929	-	2	2	2	21	3	-	9	13
1930	6	1	7	20	1	-	-	2	15
1931	31	2	33	33	2	-	-	4	5
1932	23	1	24	23	1	-	-	1	1
1933	25	6	31	25	6	-	-	6	6
1934	5	4	9	4	4	-	-	4	4
1935	4	3	7	4	3	-	-	2	2
1936	-	143	143	-	62	-	1	29	8
Total	9736	2782	9518	6491	2650	147	32	1149	1164

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Mr. Martlew, Chief Sanitary Inspector, submits the following remarks, with a summary of work done by the Sanitary Inspectors:—

The town is divided into five districts. A District Sanitary Inspector is responsible to the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the constant supervision of each District. In addition, an Inspector specialises in the control of factories, workshops (including bakehouses), and shops.

NUISANCES AND OTHER MATTERS DEALT WITH BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING 1936.

	1936
Houses and premises inspected and visited <i>re</i> nuisances and complaints	3080
Re-visits to nuisances	6659
Other visits made	1859
Visits to premises (testing of drainage)	60
Nuisances discovered	5544
Nuisances abated	4536
Notices issued (preliminary)	1072
" " (formal)	648
Letters issued <i>re</i> nuisances	697

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Houses with defective roofs	864
" with damp and defective walls	1203
" with defective gutters and down-spouts	432
" requiring gutters or down-spouts	3
" with defective windows	457
" with defective ceilings	187
" with defective floors	170
" with unclean walls and ceilings	81
" with defective slopstones or waste-pipes	32
" in a filthy condition	2
" in a verminous condition	—
Defective surface of yards and passages	72
" drains	59
Blocked drains	157
Defective and foul gullies	16
" or blocked water-closets	345
" water-closet flushing apparatus	20
Want of water supply to water-closet	5
Insanitary condition of water-closets	1
Defective or blocked waste-water-closets	13
" closets (structure)	40
" ash-houses	—
" middensteads	—
Accumulation of manure and refuse	8
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	1
Defective chimney stacks and want of pots	105
Insufficient closet accommodation	9
Miscellaneous	1262

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year 57 smoke observations have been taken. Visits have been made to premises, and instructions have been given to stokers as to the best methods of stoking and only causing a minimum amount of smoke. Following suggestions from officers of the Health Department many manufacturers are now using smokeless fuel.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES AND HOUSES LET-IN-LODGINGS

The common lodging houses and houses let-in-lodgings have been regularly visited, and are kept in a satisfactory condition.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

No. of common lodging-houses in the Borough	..	..	9
„ lodgers allowed nightly	..	..	462
„ visits	..	..	627
„ lodgers reported as being received (per returns)			74,460

HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.

No. of houses on register	..	..	..	..	6
„ visits	..	..	..	..	157

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The number of offensive trade premises is eight. They consist of:—

- 1 fellmonger.
- 1 fat boiler.
- 3 gutscrapers.
- 1 gutscraper and fat boiler.
- 2 tripe boilers.

34 visits were made to these premises during the year 1936.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

All premises where bedding or furniture is manufactured are visited with a view to finding the kind of flock which is used. Five samples of Rag Flock were submitted to the Public Analyst, and proved to be up to the standard required.

CANAL BOATS ACT, 1877, AND 1884.

No. of Boats that have been registered at Wigan..	..	353
„ still in use or available..	..	41
„ broken up, not in use or cannot be traced	..	312
„ Inspections	..	42
„ Notices issued	..	2
„ Notices complied with	..	2
„ Contravention of regulations	..	—
„ Letters sent out	..	2

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

No. of Workshops on register	..	..	..	..	..	130
„ Bakehouses on register	..	..	..	..	..	145
„ Domestic workshops on register			..	..	..	61
„ visits to outworkers premises	..	..	..	..	..	7
„ visits to factories	..	..	..	..	..	61
„ visits to workshops and workplaces	..	..	..	..	..	131

The following defects were dealt with :—

Overcrowding of Workshops	..	..	..	—
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes				—	
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	..	..			4
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	..				16
Requiring limewashing and cleansing	..	..			10
Other nuisances	..	..	..	..	13
Total	..	..	..	..	43
No. of defects remedied	..	..	..	..	43
„ notices received from H.M. Inspector	..	..	..	..	15
„ letters sent out	..	..	..	..	28
„ underground bakehouses being used	..	..	..	..	5

SHOPS (HOURS OF CLOSING) ACT, 1928. SHOPS ACT, 1912.

No. of shops on register	..	..	..	..	..	2218
„ visits <i>re</i> Shops Act (Day)	..	..	..	..	..	2710
„ „ „ „ (Night)	..	..	..	..	..	6754
„ „ <i>re</i> Young Persons Act	..	..	..	..	..	55

REPORT OF OFFENCES, 1936.

Not exhibiting closing notice	..	..	..	..	..	23
Visits <i>re</i> assistants' half-holiday	..	..	..	..	..	16
Letters sent out <i>re</i> contraventions	..	..	..	..	..	17

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

No. of visits	143
---------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.

There are 26 places of entertainment within the Borough, each one is inspected periodically and reports are made on their sanitary condition before the renewal of licences.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Mr. E. Richardson who devotes a portion of his time as Administrative Officer under the above Act, reports as follows :—

No. of premises under observation on 1st January, 1936	..	..	..	..	24
No. of premises found to be infested during 1936	..	..	..	..	65
No. of premises reported to be free from rats or mice during 1936	..	..	..	..	79
No. of premises under observation on 31st December, 1936	..	..	..	..	10
Total number of visits made during 1936	..				217

The occupiers of premises still infested are carrying out the requirements of the Act. During Rat Week, held in November, 1936, a special effort was made to exterminate rats and mice. 1,425 baits were prepared and distributed free of charge to persons in occupation of premises infested. Satisfactory results were reported.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The majority of the Public Elementary Schools of the Borough are provided with separate closets, each with its own cistern and flushing provision. In a few of the non-provided schools there remain forms of automatic flushing or hand flushing.

The urinal accommodation in the schools is also generally satisfactory. In a few instances there is room for some improvement at certain non-provided schools by way of more ample provision and more effective flushing, but the School Managers concerned have these matters already under consideration.

Regular lime washing of conveniences and painting of closet walls is arranged for by the Education Authority in the case of all Public Elementary Schools in their area.

5.—HOUSING.

The number of dwellings at the 1931 census was 18,573. The number of families was 20,190, or 1,617 more than dwellings.

The population at the 1931 census was 85,357 and the estimated population on July 1st, 1935, was 84,500.

<i>No. of Houses Built Since 1920.</i>								
<i>The number of houses built in :—</i>				<i>By Private Enterprise.</i>		<i>By Local Authority</i>	<i>Total.</i>	
1921	..	..	..	2	..	28	..	30
1922	..	..	..	18	..	107	..	125
1923	..	..	..	23	..	—	..	23
1924	..	..	..	24	..	50	..	74
1925	..	..	..	130	..	10	..	140
1926	..	..	..	73	..	106	..	179
1927	..	..	..	115	..	196	..	311
1928	..	..	..	89	..	182	..	271
1929	..	..	..	82	..	162	..	244
1930	..	..	..	34	..	135	..	169
1931	..	..	..	107	..	41	..	148
1932	..	..	..	102	..	—	..	102
1933	..	..	..	221	..	78	..	299
1934	..	..	..	284	..	304	..	589
1935	..	..	..	262	..	186	..	448
1936	..	..	..	236	..	193	..	429
Total				1802	..	1778	..	3580

1,802 built by private enterprise.

1,778 built by local authority.

During the period 1921-1936 about 705 dwellings have been demolished or ceased to be used as dwelling houses.

HOUSING ACT, 1930.

Prior to the 1st January, 1936, 528 dwellings occupied by 2,137 persons had been dealt with since the Five-Year Programme was submitted in September, 1933.

During the year 1936, 226 Individual Unfit Dwellings occupied by 724 persons were reported to the Insanitary Houses and Conversions Committee.

On the 16th November, 1936, a scheme was submitted to the Insanitary Houses and Conversions Committee for dealing with 214 Individual Unfit Houses occupied by 843 persons, and for the erection of 190 houses on the Worsley Hall Estate to accommodate the displaced persons. This scheme was approved by the Ministry of Health.

The total number of dwellings dealt with up to the 31st December, 1936, was 754, occupied by 2,861 persons.

The Photographs A, B, C and D show some of the types of property dealt with.

344 Families had been re-housed on the Worsley Hall Estate, 168 on the Thicknesse Estate, and several displaced families voluntarily found other accommodation.

The Photographs E, F, G and H show types of property in which the families have been re-housed.

During the year 225 dwellings have been demolished, and twelve have ceased to be used for human habitation.

The total number of dwellings demolished and ceased to be used for human habitation since the Five Year Programme was put in operation is 479.

In the same period nine houses have been re-conditioned and 22 back-to-back houses have been made into eleven through houses.

It is pleasing to note that no less than 73 dwellings have been erected by private enterprise on the sites which were previously occupied by insanitary houses.

1.—*Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected (for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts)	3343
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	12238
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.. .. .	3048
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	5778
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	215
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	2418

2.—*Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	1719
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3.—*Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :*

A.—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which • notices were served requiring repairs	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	Nil.
(b) By local authority in default of owners ..	Nil.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	649
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	569
(b) By local authority in default of owners ..	Nil.

C.—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	203
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	142

D.—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	3
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

Proceedings under Section 2 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

Number of dwelling-houses in Clearance Areas on which Orders were confirmed by the Ministry of Health	Nil.
Number of dwelling-houses demolished in Clearance Areas	82

Undertakings were given that eleven houses would not be used as dwellings in future.

HOUSING ACT, 1935.

PREVENTION AND ABATEMENT OF OVERCROWDING.

In accordance with the requirements of the Act, a survey was made of all houses suitable for occupation by members of the working classes.

Particulars have been obtained of the number of persons who occupy each of 18,207 working class houses, and the number of habitable rooms.

The number of families in these houses was 19,237.

A second survey was made of the 3,210 houses which were equal or below the standard of overcrowding after applying the reduction factor. These dwellings were occupied by 4,201 families, or 991 more families than houses; 2,282 houses were occupied by 1 family; 880 by 2 families; 37 by 3 families; 7 by 4 families, and 4 by 5 families.

As a result of the second survey it was found that 1,556 families were living in overcrowded conditions. Of these, 251 families were residing in houses which are to be dealt with under the Housing Act, 1930, leaving 1,305 families.

The circumstances of the 1,305 families have been carefully examined. In a large number of cases it was found that two families who were immediately related were occupying the same house.

The house provided ample accommodation for both families, if the whole of the occupiers were counted as one family, but if reckoned as two families, one family was living in overcrowded conditions. In many instances, the actual tenant, who was a widow or widower (and counted as a family) had a son or son-in-law and family living with them in the house.

The final result being that 928 families (or 4.82 per cent. as compared with families, and 5.04 per cent. as compared with houses), consisting of 5,797 persons, are definitely residing under conditions, which after the appointed day will not comply with the requirements of the Housing Act, 1935. Of the 928 families, 614 each occupy a house, and 314 are residing in houses occupied by two or more families.

After careful investigation it was found that to relieve overcrowding it would be necessary to erect houses which would accommodate families varying from 6 to 14 persons.

The smaller families living in overcrowded conditions could be accommodated in the houses vacated by large families. The actual deficiency of suitable houses was 570.

A scheme to build 569 houses was submitted to the Council and approved, but it was decided, on my recommendation, that the Corporation might proceed to erect a portion of this programme—one third—and later investigate the position before erecting the whole of the houses.

HOUSING ACT, 1935: OVERCROWDING.

(a)	1.	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	880
	2.	Number of families dwelling therein	928
	3.	Number of persons dwelling therein	5797
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	56
(c)	1.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	27
	2.	Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	174

The above figures do not include overcrowding which has been relieved by Slum Clearance.

(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil.
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TABLE SHOWING THE PERCENTAGES OF INSANITARY HOUSES; THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER ACRE
THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER DWELLING, THE NUMBER OF SEPARATE DWELLINGS, AND THE NUMBER
OF SEPARATE FAMILIES AT THE 1931 CENSUS IN EACH WARD.

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Population.</i>	<i>Percentage of Insanitary Houses.</i>	<i>No. of Persons per Acre.</i>	<i>No. of Occupants per Dwelling.</i>	<i>No. of Separate Dwellings.</i>	<i>No. of Separate Families.</i>
No. 1.—St. George ..	4281	6.3	87	4.8	880	1049
No. 2.—Lindsay ..	5222	0.9	30	4.4	1172	1241
No. 3.—St. Catharine ..	6929	1.6	30	4.7	1462	1643
No. 4.—St. Patrick ..	8571	0.6	98	4.8	1766	1927
No. 5.—St. Thomas ..	4182	10.6	60	4.8	859	1006
No. 6.—Poolstock ..	4774	3.5	23	4.1	1138	1158
No. 7.—Victoria ..	4747	6.8	101	4.7	991	1045
No. 8.—St. Andrew ..	14083	0.1	20	4.1	3374	3458
No. 9.—Swinley ..	7880	3.6	16	3.9	1986	2034
No. 10.—All Saints ..	2756	3.3	17	4.1	661	709
No. 11.—West Pemberton ..	3740	12.6	5	4.3	852	899
No. 12.—North Pemberton ..	6605	2.7	14	4.3	1512	1568
No. 13.—Central Pemberton ..	6129	1.2	12	4.3	1420	1497
No. 14.—South Pemberton ..	5458	2.1	4	4.6	1171	1358

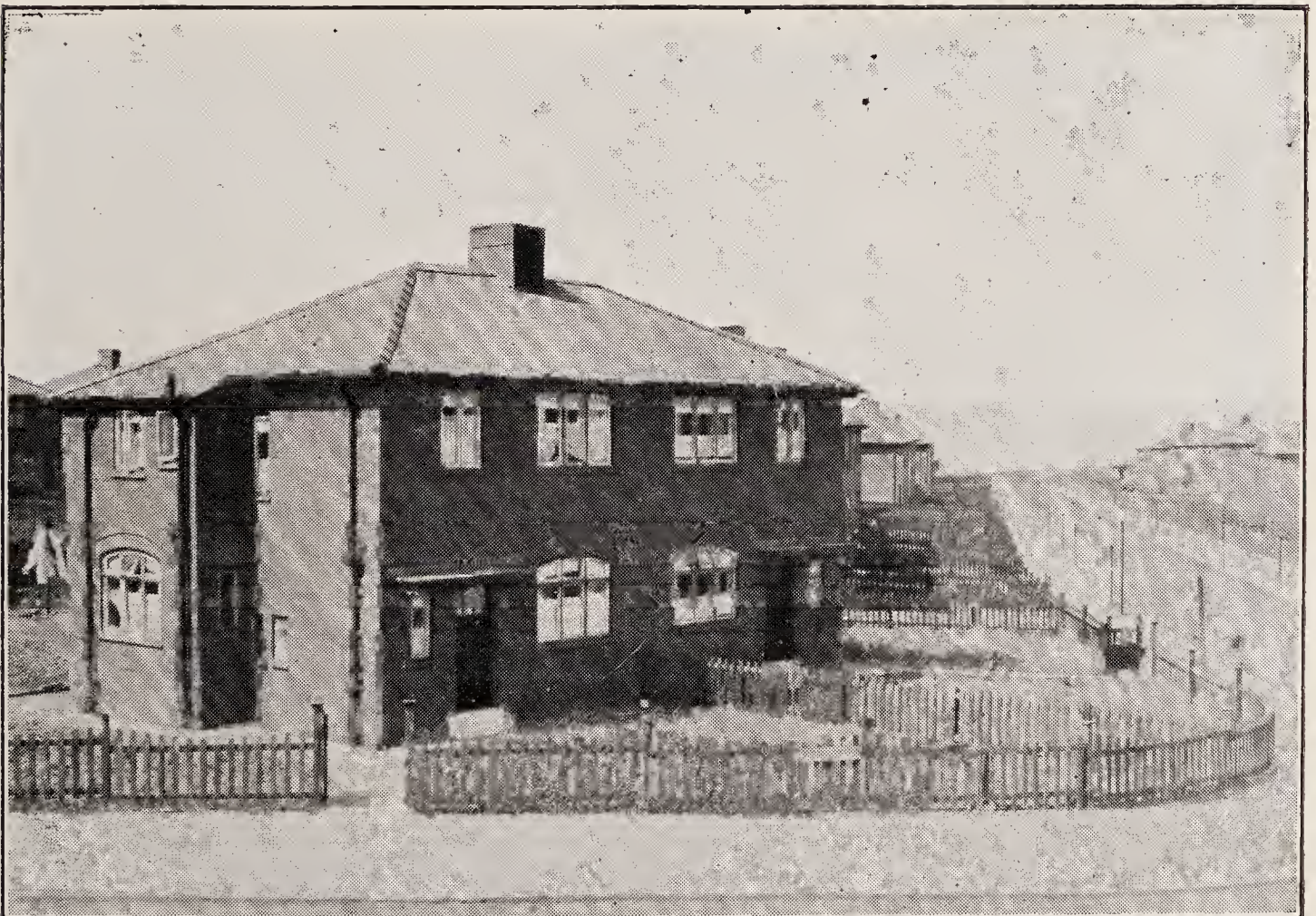


A



B

**C****D**

**E****F**



G



H

6.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. MILK SUPPLY.

MILK AND DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885.

The number of persons registered under the above enactments are as follows:—

Dairymen	176
Premises within Borough	127
Premises outside Borough	49
Purveyors of bottled milk only	452
Wholesale Dealers	61
(10 of whom are producers. in the Borough.)	
Producers	24

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER.

Number of persons licensed for the sale of pasteurised milk	44
Number of persons licensed for the sale and production of pasteurised milk	3
Number of persons licensed for the sale of Grade A Milk	—
Number of persons licensed for the sale and production of Grade A Milk	1
Number of persons licensed for the sale of Certified Milk	—

Approximately 280 milch cows are kept in the Borough and the cowsheds are kept in a satisfactory condition.

Number of visits to Cowsheds	113
Number of visits to Dairies	142
Number of visits to Milkshops	860

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Since the above order came into force much time has been spent with a view to improving the milk supply.

Visits are made to dairies etc. for the purpose of examining milk on arrival.

During the year 142 samples were taken for the purpose of testing the amount of foreign matter contained in milk intended for sale in the Borough. These samples were obtained at dairies.

Mr. Woods, the Veterinary Inspector, makes the following report:—

1936 has been a very uneventful year. There have been no outbreaks under the Contagious Diseases of Animals Act with the exception of a small outbreak of Swine Fever. Foot and Mouth Disease did approach within about 30 miles of Wigan, but, fortunately, it spread no nearer. I have made the usual quarterly inspections of the cattle in 28 cowsheds within the County Borough. There has been only one cow taken under the Tuberculosis Order. This is very satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK.
RESULT OF EXAMINATION.

<i>Type of Milk</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. of Bacteria found per c.c.</i>			<i>Presence of B. Coli.</i>			
		<i>Under 10,000</i>	<i>10,000 to 100,000</i>	<i>100,000 to 500,000</i>	<i>Absent in</i>	<i>Present in</i>		
					<i>1.0 c.c.</i>	<i>.01c.c.</i>	<i>.1c.c.</i>	<i>1.0c.c.</i>
Fresh Milk	58	25	30	3	15	19	12	12
Pasteurised Milk ..	15	10	3	2	7	5	3	-
Accredited	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
Certified ..	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—

PRESENCE OF T.B. : INOCULATION TEST.

	<i>No. of Samples submitted.</i>					<i>T.B. not found.</i>	<i>T.B. found.</i>
Milk	84	76	8
Pasteurised Milk	3	3	-

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF ICE CREAM.

11 samples were submitted for examination, with the following results :—

NUMBER OF BACTERIA PER C.C.

<i>Under</i> 50,000.	50,000 <i>to</i> 250,000.	<i>Over</i> 250,000.
4	3	4

NUMBER OF MICRO-ORGANISMS.

In 2 days at 37° c.				In 3 days at 22° c.		
under 1,000	1,000 to 10,000	10,000 to 50,000	over 50,000	Under 10,000	10,000 to 100,000	over 100,000
2	2	3	4	3	3	5

PRESENCE OF B. COLI.

Present in :

Not found in :

10 c.c.	1 c.c.	1/10 c.c.	1/100 c.c.	1/1,000 c.c.	30 c.c.
1	3	1	3	2	1

PRESENCE OF STREPTOCOCCUS FAECALIS (ENTEROCOCCUS).

Present in :

10 c.c.	1/10 c.c.	1/100 c.c.
3	4	4

MEAT INSPECTION.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector and five District Inspectors are all qualified Meat Inspectors. There are within the Borough 17 slaughter-houses, 14 are registered and three licensed. District Inspectors examine carcasses slaughtered within their own districts. Meat which has been slaughtered in rural districts, and which, there is reason to believe, has not been submitted for examination, is examined as far as possible immediately after its arrival in the town. Premises which come within the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, are frequently visited. Meat and offal condemned is destroyed at the Miry Lane Depot. In certain instances condemned carcasses have been allowed to be sent to a fat melters for manufacturing purposes.

In these instances the firm receiving this condemned meat have signed an undertaking that it will only be used for manufacturing purposes and regularly forward special schedules of the quantities received.

Shops, stores and vehicles are constantly inspected,

PRIVATE SLAUGHTER HOUSES IN USE IN THE AREA.

				On 31st December, 1920.		On 31st December, 1936.	
Registered	..	..	..	24	..	..	14
Licensed	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
				<hr/>			
Total	..	..	..	25	..	..	17
				<hr/>			
No. of	visits to	Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	5608
„	„	Markets	..	..	..	..	325
„	„	Butchers' and other food shops	..	..	..	..	808
„	Certificates issued (condemned food)	..	..	..	..	..	545

CARCASSES EXAMINED DURING THE YEAR 1936.

	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Total.
Carcases examined	11,799	2,742	18,259	17,620	50,420
Carcases totally condemned	215	30	60	11	316
Percentage totally condemned	1.82	1.09	.32	.06	.62

The following meat and offal from private slaughter-houses was surrendered and destroyed, or sold for manufacturing purposes, during the year 1936 :—

			OFFAL CONDEMNED.											
			Whole Carcass and all Offal Condemned	Part of Carcass Condemned	Heads.	Lungs.	Livers.	Hearts.	Stomachs	Spleens.	Kidneys.	Udders.	Mesenteries.	Skirts.
Affected with Tuberculosis :														
Beasts	..	..	178	213	1422	4660	979	39	562	92	426	73	1045	871
Calves	..	..	12	—	—	12	13	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs	..	..	44	1	1697	746	627	698	87	19	6	—	91	3
Sheep	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affected with other Diseases, etc. :														
Beasts	..	..	37	1	13	387	2261	4	—	—	249	272	—	1
Calves	..	..	18	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs	..	..	16	1	2	85	181	51	—	—	1	—	2	—
Sheep	..	..	11	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
			316	216	3134	5894	4064	804	649	111	682	345	1138	875

REGISTRATION OF PURVEYORS OF MEAT AND PREMISES.

The Wigan Corporation Act, 1933, Section 36, contained powers for the compulsory registration of purveyors of meat and premises which are used or proposed to be used for the sale of meat. The number of premises registered during the year 1936 was 133.

REGISTRATION OF ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS AND PREMISES.

The Wigan Corporation Act, 1933, Section 34, contained powers for the compulsory registration of Ice Cream Manufacturers, Vendors and Premises.

During the year 1936 23 premises were registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream, and in addition 42 vendors were registered for the sale of Ice Cream

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

106 premises in the Borough used for the purpose of fish frying, all of which were kept under observation.

SUMMARY OF OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED 1936.

Other meat and offal	230 lbs.
No. of packages of wet fish condemned	1034
No. of packages of dried fish condemned	666½
No. of rabbits, fowl and game condemned	1447
No. of packages of fruit and vegetables condemned ..	126
No. of kegs of pigs feet	2

OTHER FOOD.

A large wholesale business in fish and other foodstuffs is carried on in and around the markets, and these premises are visited daily.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

238 samples, obtained under the above Act were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination:

It is pleasing to record that all the samples were reported as being genuine.

SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR 1936.

<i>Articles.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Adulterated.</i>	<i>Not formal.</i>
Milk	117	113	4	10
Cream	10	10	—	10
Condensed Milk	1	1	—	1
Butter	15	15	—	—
Lard	6	6	—	—
Margarine	9	9	—	—
Dripping	5	5	—	5
Jam	9	9	—	9
Tea	13	13	—	—

<i>Articles.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Adulterated.</i>	<i>Not formal.</i>
Coffee	12	12	-	2
Whiskey	4	4	-	4
Rum	3	3	-	3
Brandy	2	2	-	2
Gin	3	3	-	3
Sausages	3	1	2	3
Mixed Fish or Meat Paste..	9	9	-	9
Tinned Peas ..	4	4	-	4
Pepper	6	6	-	6
Vinegar	4	4	-	4
Beans	2	2	-	2
Vegetable Cooking Compound ..	1	1	-	-
Total	238	232	6	77

Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

	(a.) <i>Number of Samples examined for the presence of a Preservative.</i>	(b) <i>Number in which preservative was reported to be present, and percentage of Preservative found in each Sample.</i>
Milk	117	Nil.
Cream	10	Nil.
Condensed Milk..	1	Nil.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

All premises where imported articles of food is sold are kept under observation, and 801 visits were paid to wholesalers and retailers premises during the year 1936.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

12 Samples of Feeding Stuffs and 10 samples of Fertilisers were taken and submitted to the Agricultural Analyst who reported that an informal sample of Feeding Stuff was deficient in (Albumen) Proteins to the extent of 20·3 per cent., and contained an excess of oil of 1·3 per cent. A formal sample was taken in connection with this sample and this was found to be deficient in Albumen to the extent of 14·3 per cent., and contained a slight excess of oil. A report was forwarded to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries with respect to this sample.

CHEMICAL WORK.

The Borough Analyst, Mr. S. E. Melling, F.I.C., submits the following report of the work carried out during the year ending 31st December, 1936.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY,

The Cliff,

Higher Broughton,

Manchester.

The Public Analyst has the honour to report as follows upon the duties of his office during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1936.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

During the above period, 238 samples of food were analysed, seven of which were reported against as being either adulterated or below standard, or failing to conform in other ways to Public Health Regulations. Thus the adulteration is in the order of 3 per cent.

The samples comprised 117 milks, 15 butters, 13 teas, 12 coffees, ten creams, nine each of margarine, jam, and meat and/or fish pastes, six each of pepper and lard, five drippings, four each of whisky, peas or vinegar (including 3 malt), three each of rum, gin and sausage, two each of brandy and beans, and one each of condensed milk and vegetable cooking fat.

The seven adulterated samples consisted of five milks and two sausages. The former were found to be deficient in fat to the extent of 5, 9, 12, 13 and 31 per cent. respectively. The first three of these were all related to one case, the two first-named being "appeal to cow" (morning) samples—taken by an Inspector in the County of Cheshire—from a herd of 80 cows. A sample taken in course of delivery in connection with the milk deficient in fat to the extent of 31 per cent., was found to be of excellent quality, its fat-content being 5.06 per cent.

All milks were shown to be free from preservatives and colouring matter; and the fat-content was of a high standard, as shown by the following table:—

MILK-FAT TABLE.

5	equal to	4.3%	contained	under 3 per cent.	of milk-fat.
17	„	14.4%	„	from 3.00 to 3.25	per cent of milk fat.
38	„	32.4%	„	from 3.26 to 3.50	„
22	„	18.9%	„	from 3.51 to 3.75	„
13	„	11.1%	„	from 3.76 to 4.00	„
22	„	18.9%	„	upwards of 4.00	„

The two samples of sausage (from the same source) were reported adversely owing to their containing sulphur dioxide preservative (140 and 150 parts per million), the presence of this preservative not having been declared (as required by Public Health Regulations), at the time of purchase.

The latter Regulations were, in all other cases, duly observed as regards composition and declaratory obligation. The various spirit samples were of a satisfactory strength, whilst all other miscellaneous samples were of sound commercial quality.

The above is a very satisfactory record, reflecting credit on all concerned.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

10 Samples of Fertiliser (formally taken) and 12 samples of Feeding Stuffs (11 informal and 1 formal) were examined. A number of the former were at slight variance with the Statutory Statement, but insufficient to warrant proceedings further. Of the latter, a Meal Meat (informal) was deficient in Albuminoids (Proteins) to the extent of 20·3 per cent., but contained an excess of 1·3 per cent. of oil, whilst a formal sample in connection with same was deficient in Albuminoids to the extent of 14·3 per cent., but contained a slight excess of oil. A sample of Fish Meal (informal) contained undeclared salt, whilst a sample of Soya Meal (informal) contained a small excess of oil.

WATER SUPPLY.

As in previous years, it has been deemed expedient to check carefully, from time to time, the quality of the several public supplies. In this connection, 18 samples have been examined, and aside from their bacteriological state, each sample was proved to be of wholesome quality.

RAG FLOCK.

Five samples of rag flock were submitted and found to contain below the limiting amount of Combined Chlorine (30 parts per 100,000) laid down in the Rag Flock Regulations, 1912.

(Signed) S. ERNEST MELLING,

Public Analyst.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF WATER.

During the year 20 samples of water were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, University of Manchester, for Bacteriological examination.

The results of these examinations are set out below:—

RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

Source of Supply	Aerobic Organisms.							B. Coli.				Bact. per 100 c.c.		
	In 3 days at 22°.				In 2 days at 37°.			Not found in 100 c.c.	Found in					
	Under 10.	10 20	20 100	Over 100	Under 10.	10 20	20 40		1 c.c.	10 c.c.	50 c.c.	O.	1-100	Over 100
Edgewood and Nicholson's Pit..	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	—
Bispham and Nicholson's Pit ..	3	1	1	—	5	—	—	4	—	1	—	3	2	—
Thirlmere ..	—	—	2	2	3	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	4	—
Worthington and Thirlmere ..	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	2	2	1	—
Worthington Nicholson's Pit ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
*Bispham Water Shed	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
*Bispham Shaft ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1

* These samples were taken prior to filtration and chlorination.

7.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1936.

Name of District—Wigan County Borough.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.													Total Cases notified in each locality (e.g., Parish or Ward) of the district.														
	At Ages—Years.													St. George	Lindsay	St. Cath	St. Patrick	St. Thomas	Poolstock	Victoria	St. Andrew	Swinley	All Saints	West Pem.	North Pem.	Central Pem.	South Pem.	
	At all ages	under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over															
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	—
Scarlet Fever ..	144	—	4	7	17	16	60	22	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	8	5	3	46	22	5	4	1	11	6	—
Enteric Fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membraneous Group)	205	5	4	3	10	17	111	40	8	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	23	14	18	15	34	38	6	1	4	9	7	—
Pneumonia ..	205	11	15	17	21	19	38	7	10	26	10	21	10	—	—	—	16	16	10	20	34	10	5	4	3	33	14	—
Puerperal Fever ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Influenzal Pneumonia ..	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ..	126	5	4	9	10	18	63	9	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	2	13	53	11	8	2	—	9	8	—
Erysipelas ..	48	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	5	8	25	6	—	—	—	3	2	5	3	7	8	—	—	4	3	1	—
Ophthalmia Neon.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pul. Tuberculosis ³ ..	60	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	11	18	12	14	2	—	—	—	4	9	6	3	15	4	—	—	2	4	2	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ..	43	1	—	1	1	2	11	5	9	11	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	3	4	1	3	2	4	4	—
Measles ..	77	7	9	7	7	12	32	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	4	2	4	15	9	1	—	5	4	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pemphigus Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	932	31	37	44	67	84	318	86	59	87	37	63	19	38	50	74	81	51	50	64	218	103	28	15	23	79	58	—

Number of Notifications, compared with other years :—

Disease.	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Smallpox.. ..	34	13	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Polio-Encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	78	179	559	203	100	72	240	376	398	144
Enteric Fever	1	7	5	1	1	5	0	1	3	1
Continued Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	34	19	42	107	43	32	25	21	26	205
Puerperal Fever	4	3	5	7	0	1	2	2	3	7
Erysipelas	56	49	40	42	38	41	52	51	47	48
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	10	6	8	5	9	4	2	3	2	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	1	1	1	1	1	11	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	0	1	0	3	4	9	4	2	0
Measles	2486	93	917	1481	26	1565	961	429	2157	77
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	126	142	115	91	102	83	79	80	61	60
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	57	65	38	52	62	43	56	45	43	43
Pneumonia	276	257	325	216	232	208	253	142	249	205
Influenzal Pneumonia	43	10	29	13	34	19	50	21	4	10
Dysentery	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Chicken-pox	595	445	525	489	556	162	240	164	57	126
Encephalitis Lethargica	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	9	9	15	3	7	7	7	9	5
Pemphigus Neonatorum	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
Total.. ..	3816	1300	2630	2726	1212	2248	1988	1349	3063	932

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFICATIONS, 1936

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tot.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	28	21	14	12	12	8	12	6	16	6	5	4	144
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria	11	10	16	9	16	10	19	14	28	33	28	11	205
Puerperal Fever	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	7
Erysipelas	9	3	6	2	1	2	3	3	4	5	4	6	48
Ophthalmia Neon.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Phthisis	3	7	4	3	9	5	9	4	5	5	3	3	60
Other Tubercular Diseases	4	1	5	5	6	3	4	1	2	6	1	5	43
Pneumonia	23	23	20	14	17	12	10	15	14	15	12	30	205
Influenzal Pneumonia	1	1	3	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	10
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox.. ..	9	2	3	4	3	12	9	8	10	24	28	14	126
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	7	9	24	7	9	9	7	1	2	2	—	—	77
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	5
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pemphigus Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	97	79	96	59	76	62	74	55	82	97	82	73	932

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

With the exception of diphtheria, scarlet fever, and pneumonia the number of cases of notifiable diseases has been very low (see table on page 54). All these cases are visited and many persons suffering from pneumonia have been taken into hospital from homes where proper nursing was not possible and the results have been excellent.

The Medical Officer of Health is very frequently called in consultation by medical practitioners to cases of infectious disease. Between the Public Health Department and all the medical practitioners of the town there is a fine spirit of co-operation which is very helpful to all concerned.

MEASLES.

This disease has been locally notifiable since April 1st, 1925, and occurs in epidemic form frequently. Every case is visited either by Health Visitors or School Nurses, and from time to time special nurses have been appointed in epidemic periods for visiting and home nursing.

77 cases occurred in 1936, and there was 1 death.

Number of cases notified 77

Deaths 1

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Deaths from Measles ..	Nil.	22	10	1	46	1
Death-rate	Nil.	.26	.11	.01	.54	.01
Schools Closed	Nil.	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Average period 18 days).						

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER.

No cases of Cerebro-spinal Fever were notified during 1936.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Enteric fever still occurs in the Borough, but it has ceased to be the scourge it used to be in Wigan. The following table gives the figures since 1896.

	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Death rate.</i>
Yearly average for 20 years ended 1915	96	18·5	·23
Yearly average for 5 years ended 1920	36	6·6	·07
Yearly average for 5 years ended 1925	18	2·4	·02
Yearly average for 5 years ended 1930	5	1	·01
Year 1932	5	1	·01
Year 1933	1	1	·01
Year 1934	1	Nil.	Nil.
Year 1935	3	1	·01
Year 1936	1	Nil.	Nil.

INFLUENZA.

Influenza has been prevalent from time to time and information as to symptoms and type have been collected from medical practitioners and forwarded to the Ministry of Health. Articles have been published in the press during epidemics giving advice to the public as to necessary precautions. The mortality from influenza is shown in the following table :—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Deaths	11	77	8	28	17
Death rate	·13	·90	·09	·34	·20
Schools closed	Nil.	22	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Information of cases of the disease is received from schools, during visits to homes of health visitors and school nurses, and occasionally from other sources. Each known case is visited, and if complicated or no nursing available, hospital treatment at Whelley is provided.

The number of deaths and the death rates for the last five years are given below :—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Deaths	2	1	3	5	18
Death rate	·02	·01	·03	·06	·21
Schools closed	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

As in other diseases mentioned, many pamphlets have been distributed giving advice to parents, and articles have from time to time been written for the press.

VACCINATIONS.

The total number of vaccinations performed during 1936, by the two Public Vaccinators was 278.

SMALL POX.

No cases of small pox occurred in the Borough during 1936.

RETURN TO BE MADE ON OR BEFORE THE 9TH OF FEBRUARY, 1937, BY THE VACCINATION OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN RESPECTING THE VACCINATION OF CHILDREN WHOSE BIRTHS WERE REGISTERED FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, INCLUSIVE.

Registration Sub-Districts comprised in the Vaccination Officer's District.	1	2	Number of Births returned in the "Births List Sheets" as registered from 1st January to 31st December.					Number of these Births duly entered by 31st January, in Columns I., II., IV., and V. of the "Vaccination Register" (Birth List Sheets), viz.:					Number of these Births which on 31st January, remained unentered in the "Vaccination Register" on account (as shown by "Report Book") of				11	12	13	Number of Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection actually received by the Vaccination Officer irrespective of the dates of birth of the children to which they relate, during the Calendar year.	* Total number of Certificates and copies of Certificates of Successful Primary Vaccination of Children under 14 received during the Calendar year.	Number of Births remaining on 31st January, neither duly entered in the "Vaccination Register," (Columns 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, of this Return), nor temporarily accounted for in the "Report Book" (columns 8, 9 and 10 of this Return).	These figures are to be obtained from columns 2 and 6 of the Summary (Form N)	283	363	374	1,040
			Col. I.	Col. II.		Col. IV.	Col. V.	Col. I.	Col. II.	Col. IV.	Col. V.	Col. I.	Col. II.	Col. IV.	Col. V.	Col. I.												Col. II.	Col. IV.	Col. V.
			Number of Births returned in the "Births List Sheets" as registered from 1st January to 31st December.	3	4	5	6	7	Died Un-vaccinated.	Number in respect of whom Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection have been received.	Number of these Births which on 31st January, remained unentered in the "Vaccination Register" on account (as shown by "Report Book") of	Postponement by Medical Certificate.	Removal to Districts the Vaccination Officers of which have been duly appraised.	Removal to places unknown or which cannot be reached and cases not having been found.	Number of these Births remaining on 31st January, neither duly entered in the "Vaccination Register," (Columns 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, of this Return), nor temporarily accounted for in the "Report Book" (columns 8, 9 and 10 of this Return).	* Total number of Certificates and copies of Certificates of Successful Primary Vaccination of Children under 14 received during the Calendar year.	Number of Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection actually received by the Vaccination Officer irrespective of the dates of birth of the children to which they relate, during the Calendar year.	These figures are to be obtained from columns 2 and 6 of the Summary (Form N)	283	363	374	1,040					
WIGAN WEST ..		376	48	1	-	-	297	23				-	-	7	-	62	283	6	These figures are to be obtained from columns 2 and 6 of the Summary (Form N)	62	283	374	1,040				
WIGAN EAST ..		577	155	-	-	-	345	41				6	9	15	6	177	363	6	These figures are to be obtained from columns 2 and 6 of the Summary (Form N)	177	363	374	1,040				
WIGAN CENTRAL		488	82	-	-	-	355	39				-	-	12	-	89	374	6	These figures are to be obtained from columns 2 and 6 of the Summary (Form N)	89	374	374	1,040				
TOTAL ..		1,441	285	1	-	-	997	103				6	9	34	6	328	1,040	6	These figures are to be obtained from columns 2 and 6 of the Summary (Form N)	328	1,040	1,040	1,040				

9th February, 1937.

NOTE.—(a) The total of the figures in columns 3 to 11 should agree with the figure in column 2. Any cases of children successfully vaccinated after the declaration of conscientious objection had been made should be included in column 6, and not in column 3. The number of such cases should be inserted here:— Two.

(b) The figures in columns 2 to 11 should not include re-registered births or cases of children born in other districts.

* The total in this column should be the number of certificates and copies of certificates of successful primary vaccination of children under 14, actually received during the year, including any relating to births registered in previous years. The total thus given should include the Certificates of successful primary vaccination of which copies have been sent to Vaccination Officers of other Districts. The total number of copies of Certificates for the year sent to other Vaccination Officers should be stated here :—11

DIPHTHERIA.

During the year there was an outbreak of Diphtheria in the Borough. An increase in cases was the experience in most districts all over the country. After being comparatively free from this disease for many years, the occurrence of 205 cases in the year caused a certain degree of alarm, 14 of which died.

Free preventive inoculation was recommended for children of pre-school and school age, and forms were issued to parents of school children and at the Child Welfare Clinics pointing out the advantages of inoculation and giving them an opportunity of signing consents. The response was not very encouraging. For children up to 8 years of age, it was decided to give A.P.T. in two fortnightly doses, and T.A.F. in three fortnightly doses.

Innoculation was commenced on 5th December, 1936.

No. of acceptances under 8 were	..	..	..	545
No. of acceptances over 8 were	..	..	..	330
No. completed during 1936 were	..	..	..	77

201 of the 205 cases were removed to hospital, and the usual disinfection carried out at the homes. Investigations by Medical Officers and Nurses were carried out at the schools involved and a search for cases or carriers was made in various classes. Many throat and nose swabs were taken and positive cases discovered.

Several children attending the School Clinic were found to be positive and removed to hospital.

Additional Preventative Measures :

Recommendations were made through the Education Authority to the Head Teachers of Schools :—

1. All teachers and senior children to gargle every morning from *own* drinking vessel. There must be no interchange of such vessels. Compound Glycerine of Thymol B.P.C., *diluted* a part of this to four parts of water.

2. Each child should have a separate drinking vessel, kept separately and labelled, otherwise automatic fountains should be installed.

3. Each child should have a separate towel labelled and kept separately. No child to use another person's towel or a towel for common use.

4. Pencils, pens, chinks, paint brushes or other writing material, or anything which might carry germs from one to the other, to be kept separately, and each child to have his or her own, and not borrow.

5. Teachers in the schools most affected, i.e., St. Michael's, Beech Hill and St. Patrick's, could help to get knowledge of suspicious cases early if they would kindly look at the throats of the children in the junior schools, three times a week using a wooden spatula for each child. Such spatula to be used once only and then destroyed. If any white deposit is seen on the throat, the child should be sent to the Clinic for examination.

Anti-toxin can be obtained free of charge by practitioners at:—

The Pemberton Hospital. (Tel. Pemberton 14.)

The Pemberton Police Stations.

The Wigan Police Station (Telephone 2891).

Whelley Sanatorium (Telephone 3691)

Public Health Department (Telephone 2243).

CHICKEN POX.

Chicken Pox has ceased to be compulsorily notifiable in the Borough owing to the fact that Small Pox has not been prevalent in the surrounding districts. Cases coming to our knowledge through other channels were visited by a Medical Officer of the Department, in order to confirm the diagnosis, and were again visited later by a School Nurse (in cases of school age), and a re-admission certificate issued when the child was free from infection.

126 cases of Chicken Pox were reported. These were visited by a Medical Officer.

SCARLET FEVER.

There is a decrease in the number of cases, several have been of a severe type. There were 144 cases notified, 113 of which were admitted to hospital.

The treatment of severe cases in hospital by antiscarlatinal serum has been very successful.

SUMMER DIARRHOEA.

The following table gives particulars of deaths from Summer Diarrhoea. since the year 1883.

Average for the ten years				1883—1892	79·5
„	„	„	„	1893—1902	93·0
„	„	„	„	1903—1912	99·0
„	„	„	„	1913—1922	61·5
„	„	„	„	1923—1932	15·1

The number of deaths for the year 1936 was 4.

Enquiries have been made in each of these cases.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

No cases were notified during 1936.

ERYSIPELAS.

Number of cases notified	48
Number of deaths	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (PREVENTION) ACTS, Etc.

A high-pressure disinfecter is used for the purpose of the disinfection and disinfection of clothing, bedding, and other articles.

No. of houses disinfected	438
„ rooms disinfected	1264
„ beds disinfected	382
„ mattresses disinfected	2
„ sheets and quilts disinfected	1660
„ other articles disinfected	1281
„ premises cleansed and limewashed after infectious disease	194
„ visits to houses <i>re</i> limewashing and cleansing, &c. ..	256
„ „ „ infectious disease	455
„ letters sent out <i>re</i> infectious disease	—
„ „ „ limewashing	18
„ library books disinfected	125
„ schools disinfected	5

DISINFECTION.

All infected bedding and clothing is treated in a high-pressure steam disinfecter on the Washington-Lyons principle, which is situated within the grounds of the Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital. There is a cleansing station at the same hospital, quite apart from the wards, for the cleansing of verminous persons. It is fitted up with baths and dressing rooms, and the clothing is disinfected in the high pressure steam disinfecter.

An efficient staff of four disinfectors deal with the disinfection of dwelling houses. Rooms are disinfected as a routine after cases of all infectious diseases including tuberculosis, with the exception of measles and whooping cough.

Disinfection of rooms has been criticised, and in fact described as a useless procedure. Assuming that disinfection does not totally destroy the infecting organisms, it does impress the persons concerned of the necessity for cleanliness and care, and ensures a thorough scrubbing and cleansing of the rooms, which is doubtless of great hygienic value, especially in dirty houses.

There is no doubt that steam disinfection of bedding is a valuable preventive measure.

DISINFESTATION.

A scheme for the disinfection of furniture and bedding belonging to persons who are to occupy dwellings controlled by the local authority is in operation. A furniture van was purchased and is used for the disinfection of furniture, etc., by means of hydro-cyanide gas. This process is applied by contractors who specialise in the work. A skilled furniture packer is employed. In all cases where it is known or suspected that the premises are verminous the process of disinfection is carried out before persons are allowed to occupy Corporation dwellings. The furniture from 230 houses was treated by this process during the year.

Bedding from premises infested with vermin is either destroyed or treated in a steam disinfectant. In 68 instances bedding was supplied in lieu of that which was destroyed on account of being unfit for further use. In addition 93 houses found to be infested with vermin were fumigated on one or more occasions during the year. A supply of vermicide was provided along with the loan of suitable sprays for further treatment of these and other premises.

DISTRIBUTION OF DISINFECTANTS.

Disinfectants are provided free to the occupiers of houses where infectious disease has occurred, and in cases where there are exceptional circumstances. Other persons who desire supplies are charged a small amount to meet the cost of the disinfectant.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Each month 2,000 copies of the journal "Better Health" are distributed in the district.

Classes for mothers are held each week at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Lectures on various health subjects are given from time to time in the town.

COMPENSATION CLAIMS AND MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The Medical Officer of Health examined 182 Corporation employees during the year 1936. The number of persons examined under the Workmen's Compensation Acts is very high, owing to the establishment of a Works Department.

LABORATORY WORK.

The following specimens were submitted for examination during 1936 :—

				<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Swabs for Diphtheria .. ..	..	..	..	354	989	1343
Widal tests for enteric .. ..	..	..	..	3	2	5
Fæces and urine for enteric .. ..	..	..	..	5	7	12
Cerebro spinal fluid .. ..	..	..	..	1	2	3
Naso-Pharyngeal Swabs .. ..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Wassermann Tests for V.D. .. ..	..	..	..	225	708	933
Tests for gonococci .. ..	..	..	..	8	12	20
Milk (T.B. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	87
Milk (bacteria count) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	77
Milk for B. Coli .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	77
Water (bacteriological) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Water (chemical) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Ice Cream .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Food and Drugs samples .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	238
Total examinations .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2845

HOSPITAL FOR ACUTE INFECTIOUS CASES, WHELLEY.

76 Beds.

(44 beds based on Ministry's recommendation of 144 sq. ft. per bed).

STAFF IN 1936

Matron.

3 Sisters.	1 Cook.
12 Probationers	4 Ward-maids.
1 Laundress.	1 Gardener.
1 House-maid	2 Assistant Gardeners.
1 Waitress.	1 Boilerman.

The Medical Officer of Health personally attends the patients.

The majority of cases admitted to Whelley Hospital are from the County Borough, but many are sent in from surrounding districts, including : Aspull and Haigh, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Hindley, Ince, Orrell, Standish, Upholland and the Wigan Rural area.

The incidence of Scarlet Fever in the Borough has not taxed the accommodation provided to anything like its fullest extent during the last ten years. The accommodation available has been used to a large extent to admit the increased number of cases of Diphtheria.

	Notifications	Removed to Whelley Hospital.		Died in Whelley Hospital.	
		Wigan patients.	Out-dist. patients.	Wigan patients.	Out-dist. patients.
Scarlet Fever	144	113	16	..	..
Enteric Fever	1	1	1	..	..
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup..	205	201	51	14	4
Pneumonia	205	17	..	2	..
Influenzal Pneumonia	10	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox	126	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas.. .. .	48	3	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	60	..	..	..	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis	43	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	7	..	..	..	..
Measles	77	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	..	..	..	..
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis .. .. .	..	..	1	..	..
Pemphigus Neonatorum.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Others .. .. .	..	2	..	..	..
Totals	932	337	69	16	4

Whelley Hospital.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet.	Enteric.	Others.	Total.
In-patients, Jan. 1, 1936 ..	10	26	—	5	41
Admitted in 1936	252	129	3	22	406
Discharged „	197	155	3	24	379
Died „	20	—	—	2	22
In-patients, Jan. 1, 1937 ..	45	—	—	1	46

REVISIONS OF DIAGNOSES OF CASES TREATED AT WHELLEY SANATORIUM.

Admitted as suffering from :

Revised diagnosis :

5 Cases of Diphtheria	Diphtheria and Chicken Pox
1 Case of Diphtheria	Whooping Cough
1 Case of Diphtheria	Broncho Pneumonia and Whooping Cough
1 Case of Laryngeal Diphtheria ..	Laryngitis.
2 Cases of Scarlet Fever	Scarlet Fever and Chicken Pox
1 Case of Scarlet Fever	Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough.
1 Case of Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough.
1 Case of Scarlet Fever	Erythema
1 Case of Scarlet Fever	Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria
1 Case of Pneumonia	Whooping Cough.
1 Case of Erysipelas	Phlebitis and Ulcer Leg.
1 Case of Mumps	Submaxillary Abscess.

8.—OTHER DISEASES.
BRONCHITIS.

					1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	81	128	92	92	94
Rates	..	..	..	..	·95	1·50	1·08	1·09	1·12

PNEUMONIA.

					1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	125	141	79	113	89
Rates	..	..	..	..	1·46	1·65	·93	1·33	1·06

OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

					1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	16	11	12	12	19
Rates	..	..	..	..	·19	·13	·14	·14	·22

TOTAL OF THESE THREE RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

					1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	222	280	183	217	202
Rates	..	..	..	..	2·60	3·28	2·15	2·56	2·40

CANCER.

					1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	107	102	110	114	125
Rates	..	..	..	..	1·25	1·19	1·29	1·35	1·49

DEATHS FROM CANCER.

FIGURES FOR LAST 20 YEARS.

Year.	No. of Deaths.		Year.	No. of Deaths.	
1917	55	304	1927	76	434
1918	57		1928	81	
1919	53		1929	77	
1920	83		1930	95	
1921	56		1931	105	
1922	59	372	1932	107	558
1923	64		1933	102	
1924	69		1934	110	
1925	99		1935	114	
1926	81		1936	125	

SCHEME FOR RADIUM TREATMENT OF CANCER CASES.

Following recommendations of the Ministry of Health (Circular 1276) the Corporation of Wigan have made arrangements with the Wigan Infirmary and the Manchester and District Radium Institute for the treatment of suitable cases of cancer by radium. The Wigan Infirmary for this purpose is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre. Treatment is carried out at Manchester.

This scheme applies only to cases resident in the County Borough of Wigan.

9—TUBERCULOSIS.

ARTIFICIAL PNEUMOTHORAX.

During 1936 Artificial Pneumothorax treatment was attempted in 3 new cases. 79 refills were performed in these and other cases.

154 injections of Gold Compound were given and 42 injections of Collosal Calcium.

THE STAFF AT PEMBERTON HOSPITAL.

The Chief Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Superintendent.

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Officer.

Matron of Infectious Diseases Hospital is also Matron of Pemberton Hospital.

A Sister-in-charge.

Two Probationer Nurses

Two Night Nurses.

Domestic Staff: Cook, Kitchen Maid, House Maid, Ward Maid, Gardener and Porter.

The following table shows the number of cases admitted to Pemberton Hospital during the year:—

	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
Borough cases...	22	17	2	41
County cases ...	—	5	—	5
Total... ..	22	22	2	46

AFTER-CARE.

There is in Wigan an After-Care Committee. The objects of this Committee are briefly:—

- (1) To provide extra nourishment, mainly in the form of milk.
- (2) To help in providing extra clothing needed by patients when they go to a sanatorium; also to provide clothing for necessitous tuberculous cases at home.
- (3) To loan bedsteads, bedding, etc., where, in the opinion of the officers of the Committee, this is desirable, either for the greater comforts of the patients, or for their better isolation.
- (4) Visiting and friendly advice.
- (5) Any other help required by tuberculous persons.
- (6) To assist in educating public opinion in matters of health especially in regard to tuberculosis.

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer acts as an honorary Medical Officer to this Committee, which provides extra nourishment in the form of milk and eggs, etc., on his recommendation.

During the year 1936, 90 received milk, 32 persons were assisted with new clothing provided by the Committee; seven families received clothing given by friends and members of the Committee.

The Dispensary makes an annual grant of £100, and the Public Assistance Committee subscribes £50 annually. An important part of the work of an After-care Committee is to help in securing suitable work for those sufficiently recovered to undertake it. The local employers have frequently found light work for tuberculous persons but of late years the light work has been done by those in receipt of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The members of the After-care Committee visit the homes of the patients and assist in educating public opinion in matters of health.

63 Disinfections of the homes of tuberculous persons were carried out during the year

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1936.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1-	1	-	2	2	1	-	2	-
5-	1	-	6	5	-	-	-	-
10-	-	1	2	3	-	1	-	1
15-	4	6	5	4	3	4	1	1
20-	1	5	1	4	4	6	1	-
25-	6	7	2	4	3	7	2	1
35-	6	6	-	1	3	2	1	1
45-	6	3	-	-	5	1	-	-
55-	4	1	-	-	4	1	-	-
65 and upwards	2	-	1	-	2	1	2	-
Total ..	31	29	20	23	25	23	9	4

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 48, against 50 in 1935, and 69 in 1934. The number of deaths from other tubercular affections is 13, against 15 in 1935 and 17 in 1934.

The rates are as follows:—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis57 per 1,000 of population.

Other Tuberculous Diseases .. .15 „ „

If taken together as tuberculous affections, we have 61 deaths, or a rate of .72 per 1,000 of the population.

The deaths occurred in the following Wards:—

Wards.					Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Total.
No. 1—St. George	..	..	..	..	4	-	4
No. 2—Lindsay	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
No. 3—St. Catharine	..	..	..	..	10	-	10
No. 4—St. Patrick	..	..	..	..	6	6	12
No. 5—St. Thomas	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
No. 6—Poolstock	..	..	..	..	6	-	6
No. 7—Victoria	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
No. 8—St. Andrew	..	..	..	..	9	5	14
No. 9—Swinley	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
No. 10—All Saints	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
No. 11—West Pemberton	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
No. 12—North Pemberton	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
No. 13—Central Pemberton	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
No. 14—South Pemberton	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Totals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	48	13	61

TUBERCULOSIS.**CASES NOTIFIED.**

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Pulmonary	83	81	80	61	60
Other forms of Tuberculosis	43	53	44	43	43
Total	126	134	124	104	103

DEATHS.

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Phthisis	66	65	69	50	48
Other forms of Tuberculosis	17	15	17	15	13
Total	83	80	86	65	61

DEATH RATES.

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Phthisis .. .. .	.77	.77	.81	.60	.57
Other forms of Tuberculosis	.20	.17	.20	.18	.15
Total .. .. .	.97	.94	1.01	.78	.72

				Total Cases Notified	Total Deaths
Pulmonary :—Males .. .. .	..	..	..	31	25
Females .. .. .	..	..	..	29	23
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	60	48
Non-Pulmonary :—Males .. .. .	..	..	..	20	9
Females .. .. .	..	..	..	23	4
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	43	13
Fatal Cases of Tuberculosis :—					
Notified Cases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	54
Non-notified .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7
Total deaths .. .. .	..	..	..	..	61

The ratio of non-notified deaths from Tuberculosis to notified deaths is as 7 is to 61, or 11.47% of the total.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS DURING THE PERIOD FROM THE 1st
JANUARY, 1936, TO THE 31st DECEMBER, 1936

Formal Notifications.

Age periods.	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis.											Total (all ages).	Total Notifications
	0—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—		
Pulmonary Males	-	1	1	-	4	1	6	6	6	4	2	31	32
Pulmonary Females ..	-	-	-	1	6	5	7	6	3	1	-	29	33
Non-pulmonary Males ..	1	2	6	2	5	1	2	-	-	-	1	20	22
Non-pulmonary Females ..	-	2	5	3	4	4	4	1	-	-	-	23	24

SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH DURING THE ABOVE-MENTIONED
PERIOD, OTHERWISE THAN BY FORMAL NOTIFICATION.

Age Periods.	0—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	Total.
Pulmonary Males ..	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	2	1	-	-	7
Pulmonary Females ..	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	5
Non-Pulmonary Males ..	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	7
Non-Pulmonary Females..	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2

THE SOURCE OR SOURCES FROM WHICH INFORMATION AS TO THE
ABOVE-MENTIONED CASES WAS OBTAINED SHOULD BE STATED
BELOW :—

Source of Information.	No. of Cases.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns —from local Registrars	4	1
—transferable deaths from Registrar General	4	1
Posthumous Notifications	-	2
"Transfers" from other areas (other than transferable deaths)	4	5
Other Sources if any (specify)	-	-

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY
DURING THE YEAR 1936.

Diagnosis.	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				Total.				Grand Total.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A.—New Cases examined during the year (exclud- ing contacts) :—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	24	26	—	—	5	9	9	7	29	35	9	7	80
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	6
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	27	16	10	90
B.—Contacts examined during the year :—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	10	15	18	52
C.—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as													
(a) Recovered ..	2	2	1	—	1	2	7	2	3	4	8	2	17
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dis- pensary Register as tuberculous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	47	40	31	32	150
D.—No. of Persons on Dispensary Register on Dec. 31st :—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	128	103	13	16	50	49	66	48	178	152	79	64	473
(b) Diagnosis not completed.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	6

1.	Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st	508
2.	Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years	8
3.	Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	51
4.	Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes) ..	50
5.	Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	3,695
6.	Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December	42
7.	Number of consultations with medical practitioners :	
	(a) Personal	40
	(b) Others	209
8.	Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations)	70
9.	Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes	1,858
10.	Number of	
	(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined	347
	(b) X-ray Examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	335
11.	Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a), and A (b) above. None.	
12.	Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st	135

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.

RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(A) RETURN SHOWING THE EXTENT OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT AND OBSERVATION DURING THE YEAR 1936 IN INSTITUTIONS (OTHER THAN POOR LAW INSTITUTIONS) APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

	In Insti- tutions on Jan 1.	Admitted during the year.	Dis- charged during the year.	Died in the Insti- tutions.	In Insti- tutions on Dec. 31.
No. of Doubtfully Tuberculous Cases admitted for Observation :					
Adults : M.	—	—	—	—	—
F.	—	—	—	—	—
Children	—	1	1	—	—
No. of Definitely Tuberculous Patients admitted for Treatment :					
Adults : M.	23	42	35	7	23
F.	21	38	34	7	19
Children	10	9	8	2	8
Total ..	54	90	78	16	50

(B) RETURN SHOWING THE EXTENT OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROVIDED DURING THE YEAR 1936 IN POOR LAW INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS CHARGEABLE TO THE COUNCIL.

	In Insti- tutions on Jan. 1.	Admitted during the year.	Dis- charged during the year.	Died in the Insti- tutions.	In Insti- tutions on Dec. 31.
No. of Patients suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis admitted for Treatment :					
Adults : M.	—	14	7	4	3
F.	—	8	6	2	—
Children	1	1	1	1	—
No. of Patients suffering from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis admitted for Treatment :					
Adults : M.	—	5	2	2	1
F.	—	1	1	—	—
Children	—	1	1	—	—
Total ..	1	30	18	9	4

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.

RETURN SHOWING THE IMMEDIATE RESULTS OF TREATMENT OF DEFINITELY
TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR 1936,
FROM INSTITUTIONS APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF
TUBERCULOSIS.

[illegible]

RETURN SHOWING THE RESULTS OF OBSERVATION OF DOUBTFULLY
TUBERCULOUS CASES DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR 1936, FROM
INSTITUTIONS APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

[illegible]

ANNUAL RETURN showing in summary form the condition of all Patients whose case records are in the possession of the Dispensary at the end of 1936, arranged according to the years in which the patients first came under Public Medical Treatment for Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and their classification as shown on Form A.

[illegible]

(b) **NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.**

ANNUAL RETURN showing in summary form the condition of all Patients whose case records are in the possession of the Dispensary at the end of 1936, arranged according to the years in which the Patients first came under the Public Medical Treatment, and their classification as shown on Form A.

[illegible]

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS) NOTIFIED IN 1936.

Wards.	Population, Census 1931	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other forms of Tuber'losis.	Totals
No. 1—St. George ..	4281	2	2	4
No. 2—Lindsay ..	5222	5	3	8
No. 3—St. Catharine ..	6929	4	1	5
No. 4—St. Patrick ..	8571	9	6	15
No. 5—St. Thomas ..	4182	4	4	8
No. 6—Poolstock ..	4774	6	2	8
No. 7—Victoria ..	4747	3	1	4
No. 8—St. Andrew ..	14083	15	9	24
No. 9—Swinley ..	7880	4	1	5
No. 10—All Saints ..	2756	—	1	1
No. 11—West Pemberton..	3740	—	3	3
No. 12—North „	6605	2	2	4
No. 13—Central „	6129	4	4	8
No. 14—South „	5458	2	4	6
Totals ..	85,357	60	43	103

RESULTS OF SUNLIGHT TREATMENT, 1936.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

DISEASE	Under Treat- ment 1st Jan., 1936	New Cases	DISCHARGED			Ceased to Attend	Under Treat- ment 31st Dec. 1936.
			Much Im- proved	Im- proved	Sta- tionary		
T.B. Glands ..	7	11	6	—	1	4	7
Lupus ..	2	3	—	1	—	2	2
Bones and Joints	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
T.B. Abdomen ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ..	11	14	6	2	1	6	10

NOTIFIED CASES ON REGISTER AT 31st DECEMBER, 1936.

WARD	Pulmonary					Non-Pulmonary					Grand Total
	Adults		Children under 16.		Total	Adults		Children under 16.		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		
St. George's ..	6	3	—	—	9	1	—	2	1	4	13
Lindsay ..	5	4	—	—	9	3	3	2	3	11	20
St. Catharine..	10	11	2	1	24	4	3	6	3	16	40
St. Patrick ..	22	18	3	3	46	8	7	5	6	26	72
St. Thomas ..	10	9	—	2	21	4	2	3	1	10	31
Poolstock ..	4	7	1	2	14	4	3	3	1	11	25
Victoria ..	5	4	3	—	12	4	6	8	5	23	35
St. Andrew ..	28	15	1	5	49	10	9	12	12	43	92
Swinley ..	11	6	—	—	17	1	1	—	3	5	22
All Saints ..	6	4	—	—	10	1	1	2	1	5	15
Pemberton W.	9	7	1	1	18	2	4	6	2	14	32
Pemberton N.	5	7	1	2	15	2	3	4	2	11	26
Pemberton C.	4	5	—	—	9	2	3	7	3	15	24
Pemberton S.	3	3	1	—	7	4	4	6	5	19	26
Totals ..	123	103	13	16	260	50	49	66	48	213	473

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

During the year 1936 there was no necessity to take action under these Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Section 62.

There was no necessity to take action during the year under Section 62, Public Health Act, 1925.

10.—VENEREAL DISEASES.

The figures below show the work done in 1936 :—

				<i>Borough.</i>		<i>County.</i>				<i>Others.</i>	
				1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
(a) Number of persons from each area dealt with during the year at or in connection with the Out-Patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from :—											
Syphilis	..	..	..	21	16	..	25	22	..	1	—
Soft Chancre	..	..	..	—	—	..	2	—	..	—	—
Gonorrhœa	..	..	..	59	58	..	78	80	..	5	5
Conditions other than Venereal				43	34	..	46	63	..	3	—
Total	..	..		<u>123</u>	<u>108</u>	..	<u>151</u>	<u>165</u>	..	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>

(b) Total number of attendances of all patients residing in each area .. 5996 5059 .. 6218 7471 .. 54 118

(c) Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of all patients residing in each area 95 139 .. 191 151 .. — —

FIGURES FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

				1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
New cases	..	..	..	292	306	287	283	273
Total Attendances at V.D. Clinic	..			10677	11155	11814	12268	12648
In-patient days	..	..	..	105	147	184	286	290

II.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

In May, 1935, Dr. Lloyd Potter, M.C.O.G., was appointed as consultant obstetrician for domiciliary work. If Practitioners find difficulty with confinements they are thus enabled to obtain skilled assistance.

	1932.	1933.	1934	1935	1936.
ATTENDANCES AT CLINICS :—					
Babies	10111	11755	13126	12954	13509
Primary Visits of Babies	1067	1262	1293	1294	1275
Expectant Mothers Weekly Clinic	745	730	855	1030	1100
Special Clinic			118	118	105
PEMBERTON CLINIC ..	—	—	—	—	117
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—					
Deaths	13	9	7	7	4
Rate	8.54	6.37	3.86	4.91	2.62
Births	1522	1415	1467	1425	1445
VISITS PAID TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS By Health Visitors					
	499	489	550	495	457

DENTAL TREATMENT.

The following table shows the dental work carried out during the year 1936, in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

Babies Treated.	Dressing, &c.	Extractions.	Fillings.	Mothers Treated.	Extractions.	Fillings.	Scaling, &c.	Dentures.
63	37	36	18	114	111	13	35	3

CHILDREN'S ACT.

On the 1st January there were five nursed out children on the register. On the 31st December there were eight on the register. The Health Visitors who are also Infant Life Protection Visitors paid 82 visits to premises where children were being nursed out. There were no complaints.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.

	WIGAN CENTRE.		PEMBERTON CLINIC.
	Weekly Clinic.	Special Clinic.	
Number of cases attending Clinic during the year	470	79	42
Total number of attendances ..	1100	105	117
Cases referred to St. Mary's Hospital	—	24	—
Cases admitted to St. Mary's Hospital.. .. .	—	23	—

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF INFANT DEATHS.

During the five years ended 1909, the percentage of deaths from prematurity was 21.1.

A slight increase is shown in the five year period ending 1936 to 22.5%

Deaths from congenital defects have increased from 3.62% in the five years ended 1909 to 7.9% in the five years ended 1936.

Deaths from debility and marasmus have been reduced considerably, and it is reasonable to suggest that this is due mainly to the activities of the Maternity and Child Welfare service.

In five years ended 1909 21.52%.

In five years ended 1936 12.5%.

The table of infantile mortality for 1936 shows that nearly half of the deaths under one year occurred in the first four weeks of life—58 of the total 119. Over one-third were under one week old—47 of the total 119. Of the 58 deaths under one month old 33 were due to premature birth and 4 to debility, marasmus, etc.

SUMMARY OF VISITS PAID BY THE HEALTH VISITORS DURING
THE YEAR 1936.

No. of primary visits to births	..	..	..	..	1472
„ visits to infants under one year	..	..	..	..	5466
„ „ infants over one year and under two years					3664
„ „ infants over two and under three years..					2981
„ „ infants over three and under four years					2417
„ „ infants over four and under five years ..					2157
„ „ expectant mothers ..	..	..	..	..	457
„ „ cases of Abortion ..	..	..	..	..	27
„ „ cases of Measles ..	..	..	..	..	34
„ „ cases of Pneumonia, &c. ..	..	..	..	..	63
„ „ cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	..	..	..	..	3
„ „ re deaths under one year	..	..	..	..	86
„ „ still births ..	..	..	..	..	75
„ „ to midwives ..	..	..	..	..	128
„ other visits ..	..	..	..	..	97

The following is a summary of the attendances at the Clinics during the year 1936.

<i>Clinic.</i>	<i>Children</i>		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Mothers.</i>	<i>Expect. mothers.</i>	<i>Primary cases.</i>	<i>Cases examined by medical attendant.</i>
	<i>under 12 mths.</i>	<i>over 12 mths.</i>					
Central	2246	791	3037	2894	1100	383	2217
Scholes	2636	935	3571	3437	-	332	2213
Billinge Road ..	1719	788	2507	2418	117	221	1847
Worsley Mesnes	1013	593	1606	1493	-	137	1248
Woodhouse Lane.	1723	1065	2788	2663	-	202	1788
Totals ..	9337	4172	13509	12905	1217	1275	9313

Investigations, as requested by the Maternal Mortality Committee of the Ministry of Health, are made into all maternal deaths by the Medical Officer of Health, who interviews the general medical practitioner in charge of the cases. Confidential reports of such investigations are submitted to the Ministry without giving particulars of identification.

The Medical Officer in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare makes investigations in each case of Puerperal Fever notified.

SCHOOLS FOR MOTHERS.

239 classes were held during the year 1936, and 2,498 attendances were made by mothers.

Dr. Isobel M. Smith spends two-thirds of her time in Maternity and Child Welfare Work.

The following Centres are open from 2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m. on the days mentioned in the table below, for mothers and babies, and expectant mothers—

<i>Centre.</i>	<i>Days open.</i>
Wigan Central Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street	Tuesday and Thursday of each week. School for Mothers on Wednesday.
Pemberton Clinic, 15, Billinge Road..	Monday of each week. School for Mothers on Thursday.

Jackson's Square, Scholes Friday of each week. School
for Mothers on Tuesday.

Wesleyan Chapel, Worsley Mesnes .. Wednesday each week, and also
School for Mothers on that day.

St. Andrew's Mission Room, Wood- Tuesday each week. School for
house Lane. mothers on Wednesday.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATE TOGETHER WITH THE DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE AND THE DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS IN EACH WARD IN THE BOROUGH FOR THE YEAR 1936.

Ward.		Population 1931 Census.	No. of Births (A) Notified.	Birth Rate.	No. of Deaths of Infants under One Year.	Infantile. Death-rate per 1,000 Births.
No. 1.—St. George	..	4281	67	15.62	7	104
No. 2.—Lindsay ..	..	5222	85	16.27	14	164
No. 3.—St. Catharine	..	6929	119	17.17	6	50
No. 4.—St. Patrick	..	8571	165	19.25	10	60
No. 5.—St. Thomas	..	4183	78	18.64	7	89
No. 6.—Poolstock	..	4775	80	16.75	10	125
No. 7.—Victoria ..	..	4745	99	20.86	11	111
No. 8.—St. Andrew's	..	14085	235	16.68	15	63
No. 9.—Swinley ..	..	7880	119	15.11	4	33
No. 10.—All Saints	..	2750	32	11.63	1	31
No. 11.—West Pemberton	..	3740	45	12.03	2	44
No. 12.—North Pemberton	..	6605	98	14.83	12	122
No. 13.—Central Pemberton	..	6129	108	17.64	12	111
No. 14.—South Pemberton	..	5462	84	15.38	8	95
Wigan .. ..	..	83820 (B)	1445 (C)	—	119	82
122 County Boroughs and Large Towns..	..	—	—	14.9	—	63
England and Wales ..	..	—	—	14.8	—	59

(A) Does not include transferable births.

(B) Estimated population, 1st July, 1936.

(C) Total births corrected by transfers.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1936 NETT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.
Name of District—Wigan County Borough.

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Cause of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 3 months	3 months & under 6 months	6 months & under 9 months	9 months & under 12 m'ths	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes—Certified ..	47	8	2	1	58	20	13	16	12	119
Uncertified ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	2	8
Diphtheria and Croup ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tubercular Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Abdominal Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Convulsions ..	2	2	1	..	5	..	..	5	..	10
Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	1	1	8
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	4	5	17
Diarrhoea } ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3
Enteritis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suffocation, overlying ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atelectasis ..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Congenital Malformations ..	3	1	..	..	4	..	1	..	1	6
Premature Birth ..	31	2	..	..	33	4	1	..	..	38
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ..	1	1	1	1	4	3	1	..	..	8
Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Causes ..	9	1	..	..	10	2	2	..	3	17
TOTAL ..	47	8	2	1	58	20	13	16	12	119

The following Table shows particulars of Notifications of Births received, which were notified by Doctors and Midwives :—

	<i>Doctors and Parents.</i>	<i>Midwives.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of Births notified	58	1,356	1,414
Percentage	—	—	—
No. of Medical Aid Forms received	—	496	496
No. of Still-births notified ..	35	39	74

TABLE SHOWING METHOD OF FEEDING OF INFANTS UNDER ONE
YEAR OF AGE WHO DIED DURING 1936.

SAID TO BE—

- 34 Entirely Breast-fed.
- 5 Partly Breast-fed.
- 3 Dried Milk.
- 4 Condensed Milk.
- 14 Cow's Milk.
- 36 No feeding (lived 1-2 days only).
- 23 Not known.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) REGULATIONS, 1926.

The scheme for the treatment of cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia was commenced in May, 1929 when a circular containing the following instructions was sent to all the Medical Practitioners of Wigan :—

1. If a practitioner desires a second opinion on such a case he may have the services of either Dr. Berry or Dr. Graham, after notifying the Medical Officer of Health to that effect.
2. If hospital treatment is desired, arrangements have been made with Wigan Infirmary to receive such cases whenever possible ; the request for such treatment to be made to the Medical Officer of Health.
3. Home nursing will be provided if available, on application to the Medical Officer of Health.
4. Bacteriological examinations can be arranged by application as above.

CASES OF PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA NOTIFIED IN 1936.

	<i>No. of cases notified.</i>	<i>Treated at</i>				<i>Result.</i>
		<i>Home.</i>	<i>Wigan Infirmary.</i>	<i>Billinge Infirmary</i>	<i>Private Nursing Home.</i>	
Puerperal Fever	7	2	5	—	—	1 Died. 6 Recovered.
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	2	2	1	—	All Recovered.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of children under one year is 119, or 82 per per 1,000 births, and of children over one year and under five years 53, or 0·63 per 1,000 of the population.

These figures compare with 139 deaths under one year, a rate of 97 per 1,000 in 1935.

An analysis of these 119 deaths show that they may be grouped under the following headings :—

Congenital Debility, Malformation, and Premature

Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Bronchitis..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Other causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	31

MIDWIVES' ACT, 1902.

Forty-one midwives were registered, as practising within the Borough, all of whom have been regularly visited at their homes by the Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare. Their bags and appliances were also examined.

MIDWIVES' ACT, 1936.

The passing of this Act in 1936 places upon the Council the obligation of appointing whole-time midwives for attendance on women in their own homes. It is legislation of paramount importance, for it will enable the Authority as time goes on, to control domiciliary midwifery more effectively, and to improve the status and standard of midwives.

It is hoped that these reforms will bring about a reduction in maternal and infant mortality.

Local Authorities were requested to submit schemes for carrying out the Act, and these had to be forwarded by 30th January, 1937.

Accordingly a special report was prepared and submitted before the appointed date, a copy of which is printed below.

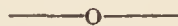
Certain modifications may have to be made before the various recommendations are finally considered.

The scheme becomes operative on the 30th July, 1937.

41 Midwives were registered, as practising within the Borough, all of whom have been regularly visited at their homes by the Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare. Their bags and appliances were also examined.

REPORT ON THE MIDWIVES' ACT, 1936.

BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



MIDWIVES' ACT, 1936.

1. The main duty placed on the Local Authority by this Act is the establishment of a whole time Midwifery Service, administered either by a Voluntary Association or by the Local Authority. As the Local Branch of the Queen's Nursing Association do not employ midwives and are not likely to do so, it is the duty of the Local Authority to form such a service by employing whole-time midwives of such a number as to be adequate for the needs of the area. Proposals are to be submitted to the Minister of Health, after consultations with certain organisations, by 30th January, 1937.

2. *Approximate Number of Cases to be Dealt With.*—In 1935, there were 1,425 births, and of these 1,362 were domiciliary cases at which midwives attended; the others were dealt with elsewhere. It is possible that when the proposed new Maternity Hospital is established, 200 cases per annum will be treated there, and it must also be recognised that those midwives left in private practice will deal with a considerable number of cases.

3. The number of *midwives* required for a whole-time service, assuming that 80 cases are conducted by each per year (and this number is now generally accepted as desirable), would be 17.

In view of the excess of midwives in the Borough, and the fact that many will be left in private practice, and also the reduction in domiciliary cases which is likely to follow the establishment of a Maternity Hospital, the number of midwives required will be less than 17, and it is suggested that 14 be appointed. It is impossible to foretell how a whole-time service will work out, and it is possible that the number of cases booked by Municipal midwives may not reach the maximum of 80 each, until the scheme has been in operation for some time.

It is recommended in the Act that as many midwives as possible be appointed, and if a smaller number were engaged, it would mean a greater surplus of cases left over, thus encouraging midwives to remain in private practice. The Act implies that the quality of the service should be improved and the best practice suggests that at least six visits and consultations be made during the ante-natal period, and 16 visits after birth apart from the confinement itself.

4. *Method of Appointment.*—This will be carried out first by advertising for applicants, and then by selection of those most suitable for the whole-time positions. It is of course open to the Corporation to appoint midwives from outside with the highest and most up-to-date qualifications, but as there is a big surplus of midwives practicing in the Borough, it is recommended that the first working staff be chosen from these. It must be noted that the Local Government and Other Officers Superannuation Act in effect operates against the taking into Municipal service of persons over 55 years of age.

5. *Consultation with Other Bodies.*—

- (1) The Local Branch of the British Medical Association and the Panel Committee.
- (2) The Local Branch of the Midwives' Institute.
- (3) The Queen's Nursing Association, Local Branch.

The second is the most important, the first and third will be mainly formal.

6. *Terms of Appointment.*—The Midwives Institute have forwarded what they consider should be the conditions of service.

On careful consideration of all the facts and after studying the views of other Medical Officers of Health, it is recommended that midwives with the C.M.B., only, and under ten years continual practice be offered £160 to £200 a year. If general trained and C.M.B. or over 10 years continual practice £180 to £200 per year, rising by annual increments of £10 a year.

£10 per annum for uniform.

£5 per annum for laundry.

Issue of 'bus tokens for travelling when on duty.

Sterilised dressings and drums.

Necessary drugs.

Forms and record cards.

A telephone should be installed at every midwife's house.

7. *Group System of Working.*—The midwives appointed will be arranged in groups, so that they may work together for off duty time, illness, booking of cases and so on.

The midwives will book their own cases, so that as far as possible there should be free choice of midwife. It is recommended that the midwives collect the fees, and that such fees be similar to those already in force in this Borough, namely, 1st, 35/-; 2nd, 30/-; etc., and 21/- abortion. They will be supplied with official forms of receipt.

8. *Holidays and Off Duty Time.*—It is recommended that one month's holiday per annum be allowed, one day per week off duty, and one evening from 5 p.m. to 12 p.m.

There will be a sufficient number of midwives to relieve during these times.

9. Midwives will be sent for post graduate instruction at the expense of the Corporation, from time to time as considered necessary.

10. *Ante-natal and Post-natal Work* will be organised according to the present staff and accommodation. It is impossible, unfortunately, at present to formulate a scheme on modern lines for attendances at ante-natal and post-natal clinics, owing to shortage of medical staff and necessary accommodation.

11. *Cost of the Scheme.*—It is not possible to estimate the total cost of the scheme until it is known which midwives will be appointed, and of those remaining, how many will claim compensation on relinquishing their certificates.

The cost for pensions will depend on the personnel appointed.

12. *Appointment of Inspector of Midwives.*—It is generally agreed that an Inspector of Midwives should be a general trained midwife, and preferably one who has held a senior post in a Maternity Hospital. Her duties would be to supervise midwives and actually see their work at confinements. She would be responsible for distribution of sterilised dressings and drugs. Suggested salary £200 – £250.

13. *Appointment of Clerk.*—A clerk would be required to carry out the clerical work in connection with the new service.

The present Maternity and Child Welfare clerk is already overtaxed and it is recommended that one-third of the time of the new clerk be devoted to ordinary Maternity and Child Welfare work, and the other two-thirds to the midwives' service.

14. The Medical Officer of Health will be in charge of the new service.

HENRY WHITEHEAD,

Medical Officer of Health.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Year	Cases.			Vision Unimpair'd	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness
	No. Notified	Treated				
		At Home	In Hospital			
1936	1	1	—	1	—	—
1935	2	2	—	2	—	—
1934	3	2	1	3	—	—
1933	2	—	2	1	1	—
1932	4	4	—	4	—	—

The following instructions are being carried out by midwives :—

- 1.—As soon as the head is born, thoroughly cleanse the eyelids and eyelashes with clean swabs, and warm boracic lotion, using separate swabs for each eye.
- 2.—When the baby is born, put one drop of a one per cent. solution of silver nitrate in the hollow between the nose and the eye, open the lids, and tilt the head and see that the fluid runs on to the surface of the eyeball. Repeat the same process with the other eye. Silver nitrate solution may be obtained free of charge by Midwives by applying to the Health Offices.
- 3.—Allow a few minutes to elapse and then swab with warm boracic lotion, using separate swabs as before.
- 4.—Don't use the silver nitrate solution again in the same case.

Every case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum is visited at once by a Health Visitor, a smear taken of discharge, if any, to be examined for gonococci or other organisms, and a report made to the Medical Officer of Health.

Cases are visited until cured.

RESULTS OF SUNLIGHT TREATMENT, 1936.**MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.**

Disease	Under Treatm't 1st Jan., 1936	New Cases	Discharged			Ceased to Attend	Under Treatm't 31st Dec., 1936
			Cured	Much Improved	Transfer to Hospital		
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets..	1	8	1	2	—	4	2
Debility..	3	6	—	1	—	5	3
Others ..	—	2	—	1	—	—	1
	4	16	1	4	—	9	6

WELFARE OF THE BLIND.

In June, 1933, Dr. Duthie, a Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, was appointed for the examination of persons under the Blind Persons Act, and he examined 59 persons during 1936.

No use has been made of power of Local Authorities under Part VIII. Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, to make arrangements for assisting in the prevention of blindness, and for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, except the valuable work done in cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum described on page 90.

LIST OF PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WIGAN, ALSO LOCAL ACTS, BYE-LAWS, AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

Public General Acts :—

- Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899.
- Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.
- Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 (Parts 3 and 5.)
- Housing of The Working Classes Act, 1890.
- Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Sections 27, 33, 51, and Part 6).
- Notification of Births Act, 1907.
- Public Health Act, 1925 (Parts 2 to 5.)
- Housing Act, 1930 (Parts 1, 17, 18, &c.)

Local Acts :—

- Wigan Improvement Act, 1874 and 1880.
- Local Government Board Provision Orders Confirmation (No. 19) Act, 1896, and No. 7 Act, 1888.
- Wigan Corporation Acts, 1889, 1893, 1898, 1902, 1905, 1921, and 1933.

Bye-Laws with Respect to :—

- Water Closets and Waste Water Closets, 27th November, 1905.
- Houses Let-in-Lodgings, 7th December, 1887.
- Common Lodging Houses, 1st July, 1891.
- Slaughter Houses, 2nd September, 1891.
- New Streets and Buildings, 21st September, 1903.
- New Streets and Buildings, 6th January, 1892.
- Alterations of Buildings, 6th January, 1892.
- Nuisances, 7th December, 1887.
- The Employment of Children, 8th March, 1921.
- Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures Used for Human Habitation, 11th November, 1913.
- Sanitary Conveniences, 1st June, 1892.
- Offensive Trades, 2nd September, 1914.
- Spitting, 20th October, 1915.

Regulations with Respect to :—

- Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, 1st August, 1900
- Measles, 1925.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN DURING 1936.

<i>Case No.</i>	<i>Date.</i>	<i>Nature of Case.</i>	<i>Results.</i>
<hr/>			
1.	Jan. 6.	Contravention of Public Health Acts.	Order made to abate nuisance within 14 days, and to pay costs.
2.	July 6.	Contravention of Shops Act.	Fined £1.
3.	Dec. 7.	Contravention of Public Health Acts.	Order made to abate nuisances within days.

